

The London and China Telegraph.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON ARRIVAL OF THE P. & O. MESSAGERIES AND PACIFIC MAILS FROM CHINA, JAPAN, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, &c.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS." A WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS.

VOL. XIX.—No. 729.]

LONDON, MONDAY, AUG. 20, 1877.

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Latest Advertis.

Ports	OUTWARD.		HOMEBWARD.
	From London.	Arrived out.	Received Aug. 18.
JAPAN—Yokohama ...	May 25	July 8	July 11*
Yedo ...	—	—	—
Osaka and Hiogo ...	—	—	5*
Nagasaki ...	—	—	1*
China—Peking ...	—	—	June 19
Tien-tsin ...	—	—	26
Chifu ...	—	—	28
New-chwang ...	—	—	26
Hankow ...	Apr. 27	June 17	26
Kin-kiang ...	—	—	24
Chin-kiang ...	—	—	20
Shanghai ...	May 18	30	July 1
Ningpo ...	—	—	June 27
Foochow ...	—	—	26
Yunnan ...	—	—	28
Amoy ...	—	—	27
Sourabaya ...	—	—	July 2
Hong Kong ...	25	29	7
Canton ...	—	—	5
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PHILIPPINES—	—	—	—
Manila ...	11	16	June 27
COCHIN-CHINA	—	—	—
Saigon ...	June 1	July 4	July 19
STAN—Bangkok ...	—	—	June 29
BURMA—	—	—	—
Lahore ...	—	—	July 3
Serawak ...	—	—	8
JAVA—Batavia ...	—	—	18
Semarang ...	—	—	3
Sumatra ...	—	—	—
MALACCA STRAITS—	—	—	—
Singapore ...	15	16	18
Penang ...	8	8	9
Ceylon—	—	—	—
Galle ...	29	29	28
Colombo ...	29	13	21

* Via San Francisco.

THE MAILS, &c.

The French mail, with the advices dated as above, from China and the Straits Settlements, was delivered, via Marseilles, on Saturday, two days in advance of its due date, and the Japan advices reached London, per Pacific Mail Company's steamer *City of Tokio*, via San Francisco, on the 18th inst. The next inward (P. and O.) mail, from Yokohama 4th, Shanghai 8th, Hong Kong 14th, Singapore 11th July, which is due, via Brindisi, on Monday next, the 27th inst., left Galle on the 2nd inst., its due date.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Hooghly* arrived Aug. 15.—From Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Chisner, Mr. J. L. Ruyter, Mr. H. B. Beer, Mr. M. P. Evans. From Yokohama: Mmes. J. Oustier and child, Mr. E. Mangaki, Mr. Abison. From Hong Kong: Mmes. F. Carvalho, Mr. Da Rosa, Mr. Tourner and child. From Saigon: Mr. Aymard and Mr. Combes. From Singapore: Mr. Van Lawick, Mr. J. Hurst, Mr. F. J. Van Leent, Mr. E. Van Vierssen and child, Mr. and Mrs. Grunhoff and child, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Belle, Mr. F. L. Anthony, Capt. Staal, M. and Mme. Querte, Mme. Roach and child, Mr. J. A. Holmes, Mr. Jas. Drysdale, Mr. Haley, Mrs. Grimby and Mrs. Ebert.

By last mail to Brindisi, per P. and O. steamer *Ceylon*, arrived Aug. 8.—From Penang: Mr. H. J. Paddy. From Galle: Mr. Hadgess, Mr. Robinson. To Venice, from Singapore: Mr. H. G. Walker. To Southampton, per P. and O. steamer *Tokoro*, arrived Aug. 18.—From Yokohama: Captain Ranton, Commander Furse, five second-class passengers. From Singapore: Commander Hastings, R.N., Mr. W. H. Carter, two second-class passengers. From Penang: Mr. F. C. Bishop, two second-class passengers. From Galle: Mr. Glasgow, Mr. Murray.

Per steamer *Diomed* (Holt's line), arrived August 18.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Cooper, Capt. Slack. From Singapore: Mr. Baylies' two children, a Siamese nobleman and ten Siamese youths.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer *Botanica*, from Southampton, August 9.—To Hong Kong: Mr. R. Dinwiddie, R.N., Sub-Lieut. J. W. Brown, Messrs. J. W. Midgley, J. F. Price, and J. Hegarty. To Singapore: Mrs. Trotter and two daughters. To Colombo: Mr. E. Wall, Mr. Masters, and Mr. Caldwell.

Per P. and O. steamer *Pera*, from Venice, Aug. 17, and Brindisi, Aug. 20.—None.

Per P. and O. steamer *Hyades*, from Southampton, August 23.—To Yokohama: Mr. J. R. Haggitt. To Shanghai: Mrs. Tidall. To Hong Kong: Commander P.

Aldrich, and Lieut. W. M. Carey, R.N. To Penang: Lieut. and Mrs. Fox. To Colombo: Mr. J. Trubridge.

Per P. and O. steamer *Poosah*, from Southampton, Sept. 20.—To Hong Kong: Vice-Admiral Hillyar, C.B., and Capt. F. Durrant.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Assa*, from Marseilles, August 26.—To Yokohama: Mrs. Sutton and children. To Hong Kong: Mr. J. D. Hutchison. To Saigon: Mr. Rheinart. To Galle: Mr. Maquet.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Amazon*, from Marseilles, Sept. 9.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Anton and one child, Mrs. Heaton and two children. To Singapore: Mr. Howard Newton. To Batavia: Messrs. J. Van Vliet and Agassor. To Colombo: Mr. and Mrs. Grieco, Mr. E. Gordon, and Mr. Boyd.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Anadyr*, from Marseilles, Sept. 23.—To Hong Kong: Rev. W. W. and Mrs. Hawkins. To Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. Van den Berg, Miss Jehas and two children, Mrs. Lion, Mrs. Van Oven and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Schloter, Messrs. Lucassen, Blanckenhagen, and De Jager. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Peters, Mr. Lecherhoff. To Galle: Mr. P. G. Spence and family, Mr. Freudenberg, and Mr. W. Bowden Smith.

Per Nederland Company's steamer *Koning der Nederlanden*, from Nieuwediep to Batavia, Aug. 11, and from Southampton, Aug. 14.—Mr. H. T. van Lawick, Mr. A. P. van Deinsse, Mr. Charles Boiscrain, Mr. H. MacDonnell, Mr. and Mrs. D. van Marion, Mr. D. Schuurman, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. W. Vermeij, Mr. Th. Kroesem, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Schlosser, Mrs. Charidorp, Mrs. A. C. Swann, Mr. P. Bamberg, Mr. C. C. Van de Wyck, Mr. H. Jakob, Mr. J. Vasseur, Mr. P. Gallas, Mr. J. Haremaker, Mr. Th. Oesterich, Mr. K. A. J. E. N. Gorkum, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hasselbach, Mr. and Mrs. J. Van der Linden, Mr. J. de Beus, Mr. P. Brooshoff, Mrs. H. J. Beck geb. Van der Hart, Mr. and Mrs. Monod de Froideville, Mr. Th. Geseisap, Mr. H. W. Van Renswoude, Mr. P. van Oera, Mr. J. C. Dunki Jacobs, Mr. L. A. P. P. Buyn, Jun., Mr. and Mrs. M. von Faber, Mr. Th. J. Van der Hilst, Mr. W. de Blinde, Mr. L. Waver, Mr. H. E. Van Dyk, Mr. A. van Nieuwenhuizen, Mr. E. W. Louis Meyer, Mr. B. van Vinnen, Mr. T. H. Nye, Mr. and Mrs. C. de Graaf and two children, Mrs. B. de Last Walter, Mr. A. J. Decker, Mr. Bleeker, Mr. E. Coppin, Mr. Poche, Mr. G. J. A. Boult, Mr. and Mrs. A. Loynes and three children, Mr. and Mrs. P. L. A. Collard, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Vorstenbosch, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Loring and three children, Mr. K. J. A. Pape, ten subaltern officers, and 150 soldiers.

Per Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company's steamer *Belgia*, from San Francisco, July 27.—To Yokohama: Kawasato Zaye, Mrs. E. Lockyer and daughter, T. Sugita, W. H. McIlwain. To Shanghai: A. L. R. Smith, E. F. Blachford. To Hong Kong: Long Sun Toy.

Per steamer *Glenara*, from London, August 18.—For Singapore: Mr. Philip Robinson. For Yokohama: Mr. Paul McNulty.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The present French mail brings advices from this port to the 27th June, and we have advices via San Francisco fourteen days later, viz., to the 11th July. The French mail from London, May 18, arrived out on the 2nd July, and the following P. and O. mail of May 25 was received on the 8th July.

According to the last accounts the Japanese Government were expressing confident hopes of the speedy suppression of Saigo's rebellion, and that then it would be enabled to divert a sufficient number of troops into the province of Tosa, to disarm and overawe the discontented samurai of that agitated province. If successful in the accomplishment of these two objects, it purposed to re-organise and consolidate the departments, to lessen the number of Ministers, and to convoke a semi-Representative Assembly.

The case of Iwasaki v. Colomb, arising out of the collision with H.M.S. *Audacious*, has, after weary days of hearing and listening to the expetitive and ingenious harangues of counsel, and the altogether too minute and elaborate string of questions and summing up of the learned and very painstaking Judges who tried the case, the jury were unable to agree upon a verdict, and were discharged; so that the whole affair has resulted in nothing but a vexatious waste of time for everybody concerned, except the lawyers, who generally contrive to make money out of the misfortunes of others. Even the newspapers and their readers have been victimised. Columns of type have been set up, and have occupied all the available space, to the exclusion of more interesting matter. And the negative result reached is to be attributed, we hear, to one of the jury, who stood alone in his opinion, the other four agreeing,—which puts us in mind of a story of a jury of twelve retiring to con-

sider their verdict, in a very plain case; eleven promptly agreed as to their decision, but the twelfth man adhered to a wrong, and a contrary opinion, and he bitterly complained that his fellow jurors would not give up their view for his own, at the same time exclaiming that "he never met with eleven such obstinate men in his life." Probably had the community been spared the legal gentlemen who mainly live by litigation, the affair might have been equitably settled, to the satisfaction of all parties, in half an hour's conference, and by the payment of the cost of damages resulting from the collision, which would have amounted to considerably less than the costs of the abortive suit just ended. After being in consultation about two hours, the jury were eventually discharged without giving a verdict, it being found impossible for them to agree, four being for the defendant, and one for the plaintiff. The Judge, ruling with reference to the demurrer is, however, to be appealed against by defendant on the advice of his counsel.

The *Herald* observes that the outlook for Japan this year is far from promising. For six months a formidable insurrection has been raging, and has not yet been quelled, though everyone desirous of seeing the country at peace must hope that it will be before long brought to an end. With regard to the two principal exports,—silk and tea,—the prospects are gloomy. The war in Europe—which no one as yet knows when or how it will terminate—depresses the Silk market to such an extent that, outside of every other circumstance, prices must rule low there, and consequently here also. As to tea, in face of the bad results realised in America for such parcels of the present season's crop as have been put on the market, it is unreasonable to expect that high rates can be afforded to be given here. Then, also, with respect to rice, unless rain falls in quantity, apprehensions begin to be entertained that the crop may be so far limited that there may prove to be no surplus for export. For years past Japan has been blessed with an abounding crop of rice, and it would not be surprising if this year the weather should be so unfavourable as to prevent the realisation of a good harvest. For silk worm cards no extra demand need be anticipated, and it is pretty certain that grain-neurs will be found offering even lower prices than last year, in order to guard themselves against a repetition of being competed with by Japanese speculators in their own markets in Italy and France. It then appears that whilst domestic war is wasting the resources of the nation, that concurrently with this the exports to foreign countries are likely to realise considerably less than during last year, so that in 1877 Japan has to disburse more and will get less than during 1876. The ability of the people to pay for articles of import will be curtailed, and neither a large trade nor remunerative prices can reasonably be looked forward to.

The *Herald* also contains the following items of news:—

A farewell dinner has been given to Dr. Willis at the Grand Hotel. Sir Harry Parkes occupied the chair, and Mr. Consul Robertson the vice chair. About forty gentlemen, the personal friends of Dr. Willis, were present on the occasion. Sir Harry Parkes, in proposing the guest's health, eulogised his professional ability and geniality of disposition, and alluded to his services in the cause of humanity in the war of the revolution, when he attended the sick and wounded on both sides, having previously stipulated that he should receive no remuneration from either. Dr. Willis acknowledged with much feeling the tribute which his late chief and old friend had paid to him, which, he said, was far beyond his deserts. He then proposed, in very complimentary terms, the health of Sir Harry Parkes, which was suitably acknowledged by that gentleman. Other toasts followed. The company did not separate until a late hour. Dr. Willis is one of the oldest residents in Japan, having been here about fifteen years; and the gathering of last Saturday was an evidence of the friendly feeling which those who have known him longest and best entertain towards him.

If it be, as is supposed, that ministers, because they are divided in opinion on the subject of the Municipal Directorship, have not agreed to take concerted action with regard to that office, it bids fair to be extinguished, in which case, as the public are to be deprived of the services of that useful officer, then two services which the Local Government has up to this escaped from performing might very properly be insisted on,—that of watering the streets on dry days during summer, and lighting the settlement throughout the year:—the first is a part of the duty of scavenging, and the latter is a measure of police: so at least does Mr. Hamilton Fish regard it in one of his communications to Mr. Bingham. There cannot be a doubt that well lighted streets operate as a check upon burglary, and other crimes and misdemeanours. In addition to the payment of absurdly high ground rents, the Government ought not to expect the citizens to bear these additional burdens; the expense of watering and lighting should be now, without further question, borne by the authorities.

Mr. H. Cook, shipwright, of No. 115, Creekside, last year bought the wreck of the schooner *Otesa*, at public auction (as she lay on the rocks in Christmas Bay, Sikotan Island), for \$130. The *Otesa* had been blown ashore during a heavy gale, while endeavouring to make an offing, on the 27th September, 1876, and on Mr. Cook's arrival in his schooner *Beatrice*, on the 11th

May last, he found her lying inside a formidable reef of rocks where she had been lifted, the tide at low water leaving her high and dry. Work was at once commenced to get the vessel afloat, and, although they met with much opposition from the weather, which continued wet and misty, with an occasional gale, the ways were placed, and foot by foot she was got down over the rocks into deep water, her sides and bottom having been thoroughly caulked previously. The work occupied thirty-seven days. On the 17th of June the vessel was floated; two days were spent in fitting up the rigging, &c., and after a disagreeable passage of twenty days, occupied in beating against fresh southerly winds and much foggy weather, Mr. Cook had the satisfaction of anchoring his craft in port. She is a fine sea boat, and not much the worse for her accident.

On the 26th June, a Japanese nurse, at Madame Pelikan's, had occasion to prepare some food for her mistress's baby; for that purpose she lit a spirit lamp, and whilst it was alight she replenished the reservoir with alcohol, spilling some beside, when the whole took fire. In her alarm, she dropped the bottle, saturating her dress and the carpet, which also became a blaze. The unfortunate woman gave one agonising shriek, and rushed into her mistress's bedroom, enveloped in flames. Madame Pelikan tried to put out the fire, and got severely burnt; by this time Mons. Pelikan, by rolling the nurse in some bedding, managed to extinguish the flames on her person. Whilst this was going on, the carpet of the adjoining room, which had been saturated with spirit, was burning, and also the boards beneath; the child was in its cot, with flames around it, but was rescued by its father uninjured. A medical man was at once sent for, and the dreadfully burnt nurse taken to the hospital, where she lies in so precarious a state that she is not expected to survive.

On the 4th July a meeting of the creditors of the bankrupt estate of Messrs. G. Nachtigal and Co. was held at the German Consulate. The official liquidator, Mr. H. Andersen, read a statement of the affairs of the estate, according to which the liabilities amounted to about \$40,000 and the assets to \$7,276, besides \$1,000 in uncollected outstandings. He declared a dividend of 15 per cent. to the approved creditors. The debtor, Mr. Nachtigal, then proposed the following composition:—The money in hand to be distributed according to the official statement; the outstandings to be sold at public auction and the proceeds distributed at the same rate, and he to receive a full discharge. As the creditors present, who represented more than three-fourths of the total claims, namely, \$28,132, gave their assent to the above proposal, the composition was accepted.

On July 5 a meeting of the creditors of the bankrupt estate of Messrs. Douglas and Co. was held at the German Consulate. The official liquidator, M. F. Knoblauch, laid on the table a statement of the affairs of the estate, from which it appeared that the liabilities amounted to \$4,160.04, out of which \$255.18 were privileged claims entitled to payment in full, while the assets only amounted to a little more than \$800, besides a lot of bad outstandings. After paying privileged debts and costs there only remained 29-10ths per cent. for the other claims. The statement was accepted, and the outstandings handed over to Mr. Douglas for collection.

The *Akemono Shimbun* has the following estimate of the financial fruits of the present civil war:—The Finance Department has already spent yen 2,000,000 on the expedition against the Kagoshima rebels. The deficiency in the land tax, caused by the insurrection in the various ken of Kiushiu, cannot be less than yen 8,000,000. And even if the war should cease at this moment, it would at least have cost yen 40,000,000 when the troops and policemen have been disbanded and paid off, and compensation paid for the losses sustained by the people during the war. But if the war continues, and we take the expenses hitherto incurred as a basis of calculation, then it costs yen 5,000,000 a month, and consequently, if the war lasts two months longer, it will cost an additional sum of yen 10,000,000. Besides this, the military stores must be replenished, and the damage done to the war material repaired. This may give an idea of the enormous sum the war will have cost, when once it is brought to a close.

The *Japan Mail* publishes Mr. Consul Robertson's report on the Trade for the year 1876. He states:—

The import trade of 1876 falls below that of 1875 by \$3,112,029, while the export trade of 1876 exceeds that of 1875 by \$8,965,149. Of the above sum of \$3,112,029, as exhibiting the decrease in the import trade of 1876, only \$260,805 is the decrease in the actual trade of the place, for while in 1875 articles on Government account figured for \$3,119,535, in 1876 they only amounted to \$2,858,730, or a decrease under this heading of \$2,498,251. In my last report I drew attention to the unsatisfactory nature of the trade during the period then under review, and I think the figures now brought forward clearly demonstrate that the remarks I then made were not put on record without fair grounds. Many merchants and importers have probably found that the field here, after all, is but limited, and the intense desire prevailing on all sides to enter into large operations cannot but be attended with danger in any small markets, especially in one such as this, where the capital at the command of most of the native merchants is comparatively so small. Reviewing, however, the general result of the import trade for

the past year, I think I am right in saying that more satisfaction in respect to trade is generally expressed, and it is admitted that not only have profits been realised on most goods, but that heavy losses on the importations of the year have been avoided. I say importations of the year, because it is impossible for me in a report of this kind to take into consideration the stocks which remain over at the close of the year.

TOKIO.

The *Tokio Times* of July 7 has the following:—No intelligence of importance has been received this week from the disturbed districts of Kiusiu. It is understood that the rebel operations are now confined to the province of Hiuga, which will presently be invaded by strong bodies of Imperial troops. The 4th of July was celebrated with much spirit in Yokohama and was duly observed as a holiday by Americans in Tokio. English opposition to the transportation of mails from Japan to Europe by certain routes has been sustained with such persistence as to cause the Post-office Department to relinquish some of the obvious rights conferred by the admission of Japan to the Postal Union. Why should the Government of Japan pay a subsidy to the P. and O. Steamship Company for carrying mails? Can anybody offer one satisfactory reason for such a proceeding? We have yet to hear the first common sense argument in its favour.

The above paper gives the following with reference to restaurants:—Numbers of good restaurants exists in Tokio, most of which are but little known to foreigners. Of those best reputed among the Japanese, the Yaozen at Sanya, near Asakusa, and the Matsugen at Ueno are noted for the excellence of their cookery and *sake*. The Nakamura-ro at Riogoku is a well known resort for gentlemen who wish to discuss the topics of the day, and enjoy not merely gustatory pleasures, but also "the feast of reason and the flow of soul." Among its patrons may be found many officers of the army and other departments, editors, &c. There are, besides these, houses famous for some specialty, such as the Tsukuzi at Koku cho, for eels, and the Imakin on the Tori, for chickens. It is hardly necessary to allude to the two branches of the Sei Yo Ken, near Tsukiji and Ueno, their reputation being now familiar to all residents and most visitors. The most popular, however, of all the eating-houses of the capital is the Matsuda, on the Ginza, at Kiobashi. This is really an immense establishment, having accommodation for two thousand customers at once. It is owned by a wealthy woman, named Matsuda Kane, by whom it was first opened in 1873.

The official mansion of the Japanese Foreign Minister in Tokio, in the rear of the former site of the Guai Mu Shio, is now completed. Japanese papers say that it is furnished and decorated throughout in the French style.

Mr. de Geoffroy, French Minister to Japan, was entertained at dinner by the Emperor at Tokio on the 14th June. Among the guests were Messrs. Sanjo, Okubo, Tokudaiji, Ito, Terashima, and other high officials. Mr. de Geoffroy has since returned to Yokohama.

HIOGO AND OSAKA.

The *Osaka Nippo* says:—

A letter from Kumamoto, dated the 18th, runs as follows:—The space occupied by the rebel lines is gradually narrowed day by day, and altogether in Hitoyoshi-guchi over 1,000 have surrendered. They are said to have been forced to take up arms, and are natives of Satsuma and Osumi. It is rumoured that some of them have confessed that those who possess firearms in each company are between twelve and five, and that these firearms are put in the forts and used by turns. When ammunition becomes scarce, the rebels make the more noise. They are also short of provisions.

The Osaka police have arrested Iwakami and Hayaishi (shizoku of Kochi), a shizoku of Fukuoka Ken, a heimin of that Ken, and a shizoku and heimin of Osaka Fu. They have all been taken to Kioto.

Statement of passenger and goods traffic on the Kobe-Kioto Railway, for week ending July 1st, 1877:—1st class, 52; 2nd class, 640; 3rd class, 22,744; total, 23,436. Amount received for passengers, yen 6,823.62; for luggage and parcels, yen 268.42; for goods, yen 581.084. Total amount, yen 7,673.124. Corresponding period of last year, yen 3,381.409.

Two signboards recently put up in Kobe, "Furnishfs Maker" and "Large Beer"—presumably intended for Lager Beer—bear further testimony to the very curious fact that the Japanese should continue to perpetrate any kind of nonsense in this way rather than submit their designs before execution to any foreigner for a minute.

That Japanese are just as ready to swindle one another as they are to swindle a foreigner we have long maintained, and we believe a cake seller who plies his vocation on the native beach is certainly of the same way of thinking now, whatever opinion he had a few days ago. A rather well-dressed Japanese ate some of his wares and said he would pay at his own house, as he had no money with him. After leading the unfortunate pedlar a considerable distance, the latter—then being on the hill above the railway—gave his customer to understand he considered him

a swindler; and the customer, seeing further disguise to be useless, took to his heels at a pace which would have added to his credit on the Recreation-ground, but which has ruined it on the Kaigundori.—*Hiogo News*.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* says:—

The *Cosmopolite*, which was captured some time ago from the rebels, was towed into Nagasaki harbour on the 12th ult.; she is to be used as a store-ship, and with that end in view her boilers and machinery are being removed and her interior rearranged accordingly. We hear that three other steamers, the *Chihli*, *Nepaul*, and *Dumbarton* are to be also converted into store-ships, and that their destination will be probably Kago-shima.

In consequence of the recent interruption in freights, &c., owing to the mail steamers between Japan ports and Shanghai having been unable to take such as offered, it is the intention of the China Merchants' Steamship Company to put one of their vessels on this route at an early date, to be followed by others, if sufficient inducement offers. We should have thought that the non-success of the P. and O. S. N. Company would have deterred any outsiders from risking their money in opposition to the Government of this country, but evidently the C.M.S.S. Company have made up their minds to make the venture, and think the present a good opportunity to secure such cargo as the M.B.M.S.S. Company are unable to take.

Some commotion was caused in the quiet village of Mogi, a day or two ago, by the landing of a body of men from a small steamer. The ever watchful Bobbies, donning their uniforms and seizing their rifles and bayonets, hurried down over the bristly rocks as fast as the nature of the ground would allow them, prepared to sell their lives dearly or perish on the strand. On reaching the beach, however, the invaders proved only to be a party of coolies and carpenters returning from the *Kinshiu Maru*, where they had been working. After the necessary inquiries as to their own names and those of their forefathers, together with their occupations and residences, and the police having satisfied themselves that they were so far harmless, they were allowed to set out for Nagasaki, to which place most were bound.

We understand that as soon after the termination of the present strife as possible, it is the intention of the Government to advertise for designs and specifications, with a liberal offer of fifty dollars, for the best description of dress suited to the natives of this country, with a view of introducing something more becoming than the ordinary type of foreign rig, as at present adopted, and more especially to meet the views of such as are fresh from cooler countries where more attention is paid to tight-fitting garments than is here considered necessary; at the same time, heavy punishment will be administered to those guilty of the least impropriety. Any person found with his or her sleeves turned up will be liable to transportation for a period of five years, while those seen with their trousers turned up will be decapitated there and then. Foreigners' servants will not be exempt from the above conditions.

CHINA.

PEKING.

The *North China Herald* has the following:—

The *Peking Gazette* of the 23rd June contains a decree announcing the capture of Turfan, the last remaining stronghold of the Dungan Mohammedans, and the objective point toward which the efforts of Tso Tsung-tang's army have been directed since the capture of Urumtsi, in August last. Turfan appears to have been evacuated by its defenders, on the approach of the Chinese forces, and they have probably retired to seek protection under the banner of the Khan of Kashgar, whose army is believed to be posted on his own frontier at no great distance from Turfan. The intelligence of the success now reported is stated to have been in the hands of the Imperial Government for several weeks, and the fact of its having been withheld so long from publication has given rise to curious surmises.

The following is a translation of the decree announcing the victory:—

A Decree. We have received from Tso Tsung-tang his report of the particulars, in detail, of the recapture of the city of Turfan by a concerted movement on the part of his army. In the third moon (April—May), Chang Yao and other divisional commanders having combined their forces for a forward movement, proceeded by swift marches along different lines of route from Hami and Barkoul, taking the rebel entrenchments as they advanced, and capturing by assault the towns of Ch'ikhtengmu and Pidjan. Under favour of these victories, other points along the line were successively taken, and immense numbers of prisoners were taken and beheaded. The main body of the insurgents, being unable to maintain their ground, retreated in a westerly direction towards Turfan; whereupon the troops were drawn together for a combined attack, and the cavalry and infantry forces having been pushed forward simultaneously, both the Manchu and the Chinese cities of Turfan were captured. The Mo-

hammedans who submitted themselves were allowed to revert to peaceful avocations. The combinations devised by Tso Tsung-tang evince a judicious strategy, and the rapid execution by Chang Yao and his colleagues of the plans adopted for the offensive has been attended with successful results. It is fitting that rewards be meted out to the officers who have distinguished themselves on this occasion. We bestow upon Chang Yao (whose actual office is), General-in-Chief of the land forces of Kwantung, the first degree of the sixth order of hereditary nobility. On the two Generals, Liu Chanpiao and Sun Kin-piao, we confer the insignia of the first degree of official rank. Upon Sung Hien-Shung and Ho Yu-chao we bestow the distinction of the Yellow Jacket. Three pages of distinctions for subordinate officers down to the rank of captain here ensue; and authority is given, in the customary terms, to make further recommendations in favour of officers and men who have claims to distinction and reward.

TIENTSIN.

The Correspondent of the *Courier* writes under date of June 19:—I have only just returned from Lao-ling, or rather Wu-ting Fu district, where I have distributed the one thousand taels sent by Mr. Jamieson. Many of the people were at work in their fields hoeing the millet. The wheat-crop, which is very fine, assumed its golden ripeness during my stay, and I had the pleasure of seeing the sickle at work before my return to Tientsin. Labourers are so abundant that wages given by the farmers are ridiculously small, viz., twenty to thirty cash a day, with food, for common work on the fields. Reapers get more than this.

I was glad to find in Chan-hwa Hsien that some of the poor people we helped some weeks ago used the money given to them to sow their fields with millet, as they had not been able to sow wheat. On this visit I found many of them greatly concerned because they had not strength to hoe their fields, and no money to hire labour, and they feared their crop would be lost on this account. How they blessed the foreigners for their help the second time! In this district large tracts of land lie uncultivated, owing partly to many of the owners being away from home (perhaps never to return), and partly to the poverty and inability of those at home to cultivate their fields. Still, the general aspect is cheering, and after the wheat is gathered the people will settle down to their usual avocations and content.

I was greatly saddened in one part of the country through which I passed to see the fields of wheat destroyed, fruit trees and other trees battered and stripped, by a fearful hail-storm. The storm occurred on the night of the 10th of May, and the hailstones are said to have been, in some places, jagged lumps of ice as large as hen's eggs. At any rate, they must have been large, for in Yang-shin I noticed acre upon acre in which hardly a single ear of wheat was left standing; every stalk was cut about nine inches from the ground. In other fields, perhaps one-third of the whole might be gathered. It seemed so sad, to pass from the luxuriant fields of waving, almost ripened corn, suddenly into fields that but three weeks before had given the same promise of golden harvest, but were now sombre and desolated. From Pin-chow on the coast to Ning-ching on the west towards the canal—a distance of about two hundred li—I found the storm had run with varying effects (and I know not how much further, while the width of the storm-tract appears to have been about twenty li on the eastern side down to ten li on the western; also, irregular. In Pin-chow it is reported that forty villages have been re-plunged into distress by this calamity; while in Zang-shin and Lo-ling districts similar aggravation of the sufferings of the people is caused by this new visitation. No wonder the people in these regions should seem to be more dejected than their neighbours. I felt the depression myself immediately on passing within the storm-line. Many a young fellow did I meet on the road with his hoe on his shoulder, who said in reply to our inquiries:—"Oh, the hail has destroyed our wheat; I am going to seek a little bread elsewhere." This calamity of course is very limited in its range, but as that range is in districts where the general famine has prevailed, the people whose prospect of relief has thus been blighted must feel it most keenly.

I need not repeat the usual sights of misery and sickness which greeted me, and which have so fully been described to you on previous occasions. In Lao-ling and Chan-hwa the relief I was able to convey from your Committee's funds was most urgently needed and gratefully appreciated.

CHEFOO.

The *Courier's* correspondent says:—

Dr. Nevius is preparing a sort of general report of his doings, which will be sent to you by-and-by. Before leaving he was fêted and presented with flags and banners of all sorts and sizes, expressive of the gratitude felt by the donors for the succour afforded. It was no doubt a perfectly genuine and spontaneous movement on their part, and shows that whatever the *literati* and officials may think, your generosity has made a deep and lasting impression upon the common people. There can be no doubt, I think, but that the idea conveyed by the term "foreigner" will hence be something very different from what it has hitherto been.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 1st July; the French mail from London, May 18, was received on the 30th June.

The Yangking-pang creek is at last to be cleansed. At least a commencement of this long talked of work is promised by the Municipal Council after the hot weather is over, and in the meantime the "bundling" of the creek is being proceeded with.

The first part of the Customs Returns for the past year giving the usual abstract of Trade and Customs Revenue Statistics from 1864 to 1876 have been published. The value of the foreign trade during the year—Tls. 151,000,000—was greater by Tls. 9,000,000 than in any previous year during that period, and greater by Tls. 14,000,000 than in any other year but 1872 (which reached Tls. 142,000,000). The revenue of course was also larger, though not correspondingly; Tls. 12,152,921 against Tls. 11,268,109 last year, which was the next highest. The gross value of the trade of Shanghai was also greater than in any previous year, having reached Tls. 124,174,755—rather more than Tls. 6,000,000 above 1872, which was the next highest year in the list.

The *North China Daily News* gives the following account of the opening of the Silk market:—

The Silk market was opened late on Wednesday evening (June 27); but it seems to have closed again the following day, as holders were unwilling to continue selling at the moderate prices given, in face of such an advance as that quoted by Reuter of 6d. a lb. on Red Peacock on a flat market! The settlements have been, therefore, restricted to within 100 bales, including No. 2 Buffalo, No. 2 Beautiful Woman, and No. 2 Dancing Bear, at 417½ equal to 19s. 2d. laid down in London; 883 Dollars variously reported from Tls. 385 to 400, and chop No. 2 Kahing Taysam at Tls. 420. Dollars have advanced, and numerous orders for purchasing have been sent up-country. Silkmen appear rather astonished at the opening rates; but large holders are not sellers, as the improvement in prices at home, which seems at present known only in specially advised quarters, persuades them that the long-looked for advance is at hand, and that buyers generally will quickly respond to the signal given.

The above paper gives the following items of news:—

We hear a report that the Chinese are about to establish revenue stations in the interior, for the collection of junk and boat dues from all vessels carrying goods going into the country, or coming out under a transit pass. If this is the case, it can scarcely be regarded as other than an indirect way of levying lekin on foreign imports and native goods intended for export.

The report of the London Mission Hospital at Hankow for the past year shows a considerable increase in the number of patients treated over the previous year. The increase is especially noticeable in the number of in-patients, which was 406 as compared with 93 last year. The income of the hospital, including \$148 brought forward from the previous year, was \$756; and the expenditure \$503, leaving a balance of \$251. Dr. Mackenzie sets out by stating that the term "Medical Mission" implies the use of medical means to the missionary end; "it makes medicine the handmaid of the Gospel, seeking through the administration of medical relief to advance the cause of our Lord and Master Jesus Christ." And it is evident from every paragraph that this principle is very clearly kept in view. It is gratifying to learn that many opium smokers have been successfully weaned from that vice by treatment at the hospital; and in at least nine cases the sufferers "have, after careful inquiry and prolonged trial, been received into the Church." The impatience of the Chinese, however, occasionally prevents successful treatment. A man was received with a fracture of the thigh-bone. The necessity of time to effect a proper cure was repeatedly explained to him; yet at the end of a week his friends removed the splint and bandages, and carried him out. We have not space to follow the report closely into detail. Suffice it to say that, as we said before, constant evidence is given of earnest endeavour to couple proselytism with medical advice. "We rejoice," says the writer, "that all our helpers are workers for Christ. Siau, the native preacher, who has the special duty of attending to the spiritual teaching of the patients, is growing daily in suitability for the work. The hospital assistants both give valuable aid in the religious department; and even the coolie manifests great delight when he sees patients show any interest in the Gospel message."

From the *Courier* we take the following:—

On June 30 the China Merchants' Company paid Messrs. Russell and Co. the sum of Tls. 150,000, being a further instalment of the price of the Shanghai Steam Navigation Company.

It is rumoured that the establishment of a steamboat service is contemplated between Shanghai and the Southern ports. From what we hear we should judge that the China Merchants' Company is likely to feel any competition that may be brought against it. "We have plenty of money," said the Viceroy—according to report—the other day; "what we want is management." The second part of Li's remark is undeniably most true. The first assertion is gratifying, considering the rates at which the company carries freight.

We deeply regret to hear that rumours are in circulation

pointing to the possible stoppage of the Woosung Railway at the expiration of the present term. It is most devoutly to be hoped that these are without good foundation. There is no doubt, however, we believe, that an active correspondence is now being carried on upon the subject between the British Legation and the Viceroy of Chihli and Nanking, and we can only trust that their negotiations may result in the aversion of any step so ruinous to the interests of both foreigners and Chinese as that which is now said to be in contemplation.

Civilisation is making vast strides among the Chinese. Some time ago, a gentleman having temporary relations with the Imperial Government was accommodated with a passage down the coast in a native gunboat. The captain, who had been formerly a pilot, used his best endeavours to make his passenger comfortable, and by way of evincing his amicable designs, offered him raw brandy at dinner, instead of sherry. The gentleman declined the proposal, saying that he was not in the habit of indulging in such strong drink. "No!" replied the skipper, interrogatively, why, my any time takee?" which he certainly did, on that occasion, to the tune of three or four glasses.

The superstitions of the Chinese are sometimes very curiously exemplified. The other day a woman died in the city—she was the wife of a charcoal-dealer—who, for a long time, had hoarded money secretly, the fact being hidden even from her husband. When she fell sick, she took her dollars and concealed them under her pillow, her avarice extending so far—the ruling passion strong in death—that when she died her hands were found clutching a number of the coins so tightly that it was impossible to unlock the fingers. Of course, firmly as the muscles may have been set, it would no doubt have been possible for the husband to have wrenched or cut them apart had he wished to do so; but no. "She stuck to her dollars during her life," said the widower, "and she clings to them still more desperately in death; let her have them undisturbed." And so the corpse was buried, its dead hands clasping the dollars with a desperate grip while the rest of the poor creature's savings were put in the coffin and buried for ever with her.

We regret to hear of a rather serious accident which occurred on the 28th ult. to the French mail steamer *Hoogly*. It seems that early in the morning, as she was swinging to the tide, she broke loose from her moorings, and, drifting in direction of the Chinese Navigation Company's wharf, had a narrow escape of coming into violent collision with the *Hankow*. She was saved from this by her stern suddenly sticking in, or at least striking on, the mud, while still at some distance from the river-boat, thereby saving the latter from almost certain and most serious damage, but being left herself in a very precarious position. She swung slowly round, her stern being pretty hard ashore, and in that state she remained until the tug-boat *Samson* came to her rescue. She was not got off, however, without a good deal of bumping and scratching, while she left the pontoon of the C.N. Company in a strained and somewhat leaky state. The mishap might have been attended with very disastrous consequences, and so far may be called a serious one; but luckily the affair ended without any material damage to any of the vessels concerned.—*Courier*.

An event has occurred this week which is worthy of more than a passing notice. By order of the Mixed Court, a parcel (1,850 pieces) of 10 lb. Gray Shirtings, for the clearance of which judgment was, a few weeks since, obtained against the native buyer, has been sold by public auction. Is this to be accepted as an earnest that "better administration of justice," foreshadowed in the "Chefoo Convention," is really to be vouchsafed to the foreigner? If so, then, on this point at least, our Chamber of Commerce's letter to its London Committee, late although it was, is premature. Be that as it may, however, the above event is a novelty in Mixed Court justice, and, being of welcome interest to every foreigner concerned in the Piece Goods trade, it is here specially recorded.

NANKING.

A correspondent of the *Courier* writes under date of the 25th June:—

The present fast was preceded by an unusual number of executions, several of which were for the manufacture of, or dealing in, small cash. It is not to be supposed that the residents in Soochow and other places where small cash is prohibited avail themselves of the opportunity of having them melted up while elsewhere they are still in circulation. There is some difficulty however in conveying them from place to place. On one occasion an old coffin was en route for this part of the country, when some of the mandarins thought they would like to see the corpse. It is sufficient to add that the chief mourner was beheaded here some days ago. The locusts seem to have left the immediate vicinity of Nanking for the present, and it would be well if we could say as much of the drought. I have been assured that there has been no time since the rebellion when rain was needed as greatly as now. Last summer and autumn was very dry, and the rains during the winter and spring have been unusually slight, so that now there is reason for serious alarm. The city presents a strange appearance to-day. From one end to the other prayers for rain written on yellow paper are suspended across the streets like myriads of streamers on some gala day; while altars to the Dra-

gon King, and perhaps to the thunder, lightning, wind, rain, and local deities, with their candles, incense, and hosts of worshippers, all show the anxiety of the people about the coming distress, which now seems to be almost at their very doors. Trade is dull. Many persons are out of employment, and the outlook is still more gloomy.

Fires are continually breaking out, but probably for a long time none more destructive of human life have occurred than one last night. A house was in flames. The mandarin in an adjoining building began to remove his goods. Among other articles, a quantity of powder was taken out, and, as no notice was given to the crowd of spectators, and the explosive compound was not in any wise protected, no one need ask what next took place. Seven men were soon over the troubles of this life, and a large number were more or less injured. Some may have died after reaching their homes, and many are in a critical condition. I was sent for early this morning, and in company with Mr. E. Müller, of Shanghai, spent a considerable part of the day caring for the sufferers. Some of the scenes were indeed horrible. There were strong men with faces, bodies, and limbs swollen, burned, and blistered, the skin dropping off—and, added to all this, the victims of native doctors. They had first been treated with rat nil (which is made by dipping a rat in oil and then burning it), and afterwards powdered with pulverised oyster-shells. They had also taken castor oil internally. There are no bandages or plasters, or anything to exclude the air from the wounds. As but little clothing is worn at this season of the year, their injuries were the more serious, and generally extended from head to foot. While caring for one patient others would call for us, and then we went from house to house. One who came for us was a grey-haired man of seventy-seven, whose son had been injured. One was a boy, of perhaps ten years, who wished us to visit his uncle; but the most touching case was that of a woman, who prostrated herself before us, saying, "I am sixty years old, a widow, have an only son of eighteen; do a good deed, &c." We bound up her son's wounds, which, though severe, were not of necessity dangerous, and encouraged her to believe that her son would not die. We hope by a few days' care to save several cases which seem critical, and also never to be obliged to engage in such work again.

The U.S.S. *Palos*, with the Secretary of the United States Legation on board, has been here for several days.

WENCHOW.

The *North China Daily News* correspondent writes:—

Since I last wrote we have been visited by ten days of incessant rain, with the consequent freshets. The river rose considerably, and the current on certain days attained a speed of seven knots; but in no instance have we heard of any loss of life, or even damage, although in some cases the force of the stream caused one or two junks to drag for some distance. The mud is so soft that under influences such as those now described the anchors have but feeble hold, and even in the case of H. I. G. M. S. *Cyclop* gave way, without, however, causing more trouble than that involved by a berth further from the position that was at first taken up.

Apropos of the mud, a curious fact was noted by the Naval officers whilst surveying the Upper Anchorage. One of the boats happened to ground on a bank formed just below an island lying about three-quarters of the way across the river; and although the tide was running strong ebb and the men pulling, still the boat remained fast in the mud, and with it moved visibly up stream and against the rowers. This phenomenon, with others, is thought to indicate great uncertainty as to the permanency of any channel that may now be laid down in the new charts.

The captain and officers of the German gunboat, however, continue indefatigable in surveying from daylight to dark, and have nearly finished that portion of the river comprehended between the upper limit of the port and Jar Point (lower anchorage). We understand that the *Cyclop* will go on surveying until all the work has been completed, or she receives orders to proceed elsewhere.

Mr. Main arrived by the *Conquest* and has, we believe, no hesitation in identifying the suspected lorch as the *Mandarin*. This makes the third European who expresses himself confident as to her identity, which, with the strong circumstantial evidence afforded by the absence of any trustworthy papers, or even plausible account of how she came in her present owner's possession, and the suspiciously marked trouble that has been taken to disguise her, would appear to put the question beyond a doubt. Meantime, the matter has been reported and referred to Peking by both H.B.M. Consul and the Taoutai. It will be interesting to note how, in the event of her being undoubtedly proved to be the *Mandarin*, the Chinese Government will get out of the new phrase set up by the utter absence of "due diligence" indisputably proved by the fact of her trading so long on their coast after the murder; the numerous reports that have from time to time been made to them of her having been seen by various foreigners; and, finally, that as soon as foreigners get access to the port she has been always assumed to be trading to she is at once recognised, and on H.B.M. Consul's representations seized. The complication will not be simplified by the strenuous denials hitherto given by the Chinese to the foreign assertions, or the

fact that her comings and goings, so patent to even chance passers-by on the high seas, must have been, or certainly ought to have been, equally well-known to them.

The vessel is now scarcely worth the breaking up; the causes that have led to this depreciation will no doubt have weight in deciding the question as to right for indemnity, and be not the less effective in rebutting any plea that may now be set up as to the "non-responsibility of a Government for the acts of individuals, beyond using due diligence in the apprehension of offenders, making sincere efforts to restore as much of the stolen property as possible, and to take such steps as may seem necessary for preventing such crimes in future."

Trade is much as before. We notice the *Conquest* takes about \$59,000 away with her, it is to be presumed to be laid out in the purchase of goods or to pay for that already imported. As it all goes to Ningpo, it looks as though the Chinese, with characteristic conservatism, continue to buy their merchandise through Ningpo, merely substituting steamer for junk transport. This is a piece of obstinacy, however, which is likely to speedily remedy itself by appeal to that most sensitive part of the Celestial merchant, his pocket.

Upwards of 200 half-chests of tea go up to the Shanghai market. The tea-men here are asking the most ridiculous prices, and what is more they somewhat firmly believe that they have only to go North to get them. This again may possibly correct itself.

HONG KONG.

Our advices by this mail extend to the 7th July; no later mail from London had arrived out.

Since the departure of the last mail the occurrences in the colony appear to have been of little more than local interest; but there seems to be no lack of activity in regard to legislative and other matters in which the welfare of the community is involved. An Order in Council of his Excellency the Governor is published in the *Gazette*, by which it is ordered, under the Naval Stores Ordinance (Hong Kong) 1875, that the regulations made by his Excellency Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell in Council, on Sept. 28, 1867, under the Naval and Victualling Stores Ordinance (Hong Kong) 1867, shall remain, and continue in force under the said recited Ordinance of 1875, until further notice. Education in the Colony has been further inquired into, and the Inspector of Schools, Mr. F. Stewart, having been requested to furnish a return of the average expense of each scholar at the Government Schools for 1876, calculated, not by the enrolment, but by the average daily attendance, this information is published in the *Gazette*, and is as follows:—Expenditure, \$19,244.85; deduct fees from the scholars at the Central School, \$2,688.25; total, \$16,556.60. The average expense of each scholar at the Government Schools, \$13.88; at the Central School, \$29; and at native schools, \$6.45. A report has been issued by the Rev. F. Hubrig, for the year 1876-77 of the Mission School connected with the Rhenish Missionary Society in China. It gives an interesting account of the educational work of the society, but some discouragement is felt on account of the fact that the local subscriptions no longer cover the expenses of the school work, and an allowance of \$800 has had to be asked from the Board. The subscription list shows that his Excellency the Viceroy of Kwangtung and Kwangsi has subscribed \$100, his Excellency the Kwan-pu has given a similar amount, and other native officials smaller sums.

Sir Brooke Robertson had arrived from Canton, on a visit, and was much improved in health.

The *Daily Press*, in commenting upon the further delay in the ratification of the Convention, says:—

"The announcement made by Reuter, that the Chinese Government has formally consented to open fresh negotiations for an arrangement of the Lekiin question with all the Treaty Powers on more liberal terms than those of the Chefoo Convention, if correct, would indicate that Sir Thomas Wade's great triumph of diplomacy is not likely to be ratified. It is well understood that the other Treaty Powers—and more especially Germany—are very strongly opposed to the recognition which is given to Lekiin in the Chefoo Convention, and it is probably on their representations to England that the Government of Peking has been induced to open fresh negotiations on the subject. It is, of course, impossible to predict the basis on which a settlement of this question will be proposed, but it is to be hoped that the united efforts of the foreign ministers at Peking will succeed in procuring one that will prove equitable to all parties, and at the same time be so framed that its provisions cannot be evaded by the astute mandarins. We shall be glad to learn fuller particulars of the reported negotiations. It is generally felt among all British and most foreign residents out here that the Chefoo Convention is not a satisfactory settlement of the questions at issue between England and China, while it fails to materially improve the commercial relations of foreigners in China.

A Marine Court of Inquiry to investigate into the circumstances attending the grounding of the steamship *Thales* on her last voyage to Cooktown has found as follows:—

First—that the British steamship *Thales*, official No. 52,608, whereof Charles Coles, number of whose extra certificate of com-

petency is 20,759, is master, struck and received damage on a rock about two miles S. by E. of Cambridge Point, off the Mount Adolphus Island—(Admiralty Chart, Torres Straits, sheet 1).

Second—They find that the rock, having fifteen feet of water on it, is not marked on the above-mentioned chart by which the vessel was navigated.

Third—They were unanimously of opinion that the navigation of the *Thales* was being carefully conducted, and that no blame is to be attributed to the master, whose certificate was returned.

From the above-named paper we take the following:—

An inquest was held on the body of a married woman, named Yik Acheme, about twenty years of age, who, it appears, died from opium poisoning. The husband of the deceased, Low Awong, took the body of his wife to the Tung Wah Hospital, and then went to the Registrar-General and reported the matter there. The Registrar-General ordered the body to be sent to the Lock Hospital. This was done, when the case was brought to the notice of the coroner. The husband said he had been married two years, and had one child. He had been sick several days. The deceased boiled him some medicine at four P.M. She was a servant in a brothel. After she boiled the medicine she went back to the brothel, and did not return that night. At four P.M. next day, July 1, she returned and asked him how he was, and he told her he was better. She went away again, and he did not know when she returned, as he was asleep with the child. At three A.M. on July 2 the child cried, and he told his wife not to let the child disturb the neighbours. He got no answer. He spoke louder, and still got no answer. She rolled about, and he felt that she was cold, and he sent for her father in West-street. The father came, and she was still breathing, but insensible. The father gave her lamp oil and water. She did not recover, and, whilst still breathing was taken to the Tung Wah Hospital. The doctor there said he could not save her, and hurried her off to the Lock Hospital. He then took her to the Lock Hospital, and she was still breathing. He told the people there not to cover her all over, as she was still alive. The matron afterwards went with him to the dead-house to examine the body, and the deceased appeared to be dead. He knew of no reason why she should take opium. He found no traces of it, and he had had no quarrel with her. She was carried on a person's back to the Tung Wah Hospital. The coroner at this stage remarked that the inquest had better be adjourned for the police to make further inquiry, as it appeared from the evidence of the doctor from the Tung Wah Hospital that the deceased was dead when brought, and from the evidence of the husband that she was alive, and that the Tung Wah hospital doctor hurried her off to the Lock Hospital without looking at her. Now, if this be true, the doctor of the Tung Wah Hospital is accountable for negligence in not using some means to restore the deceased, and save her life. The inquiry was then adjourned.

The 101st anniversary of the Declaration of American Independence, the ever-"Glorious Fourth," was celebrated as usual by the American portion of the community. The United States Consulate, the houses of most of the American residents, and the American ships in harbour were decked out with bunting, and the Commodore hoisted the Stars and Stripes on the *Victor Emanuel* in honour of the anniversary. Mr. Bailey, according to his wonted custom, kept open house, and during the day received a very large number of visitors of various nationalities.

The Rev. J. Lamont having sent in his resignation as pastor of Union Church, a meeting of the members and seatholders was held, to consider the arrangements to be made for the future. It was stated that the Church was not in a position to raise the same amount of money it had hitherto done; that while there was formerly an income of about \$3,000, at present it was hardly more than \$2,000. After some discussion it was resolved to ask the London Missionary Society to send out a third Missionary to Hong Kong, whose primary work should be as pastor of Union Church, but who should also assist in Chinese Mission work, the Church paying him a salary equal to that received by married missionaries, say \$1,500 per annum, and his passage, the society to pay house-rent or provide a residence. A resolution was also unanimously passed expressing the regret of the members and seatholders at the severance of Mr. Lamont's connection with the Church.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

HONG KONG, JULY 6.

I have just heard of a practical joke played off on "the General." About a couple of weeks ago a portrait of Sir Arthur Kennedy, our late Governor, was exhibited at Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co.'s store. The painter was a well-known resident in the Colony—Mr. J. B. Coughtrie—and as the likeness was a true one, and altogether a very creditable performance, a public subscription was set on foot to purchase the painting for the City Hall. Within two days the required \$200 were forthcoming, and the portrait now adorns the walls of the building in question. But to come to the joke. On the subscription list being sent round for names, some misguided individual endorsed it with the name of General Colborne. Now you are doubtless aware that the relations between the General and Sir Arthur were something like those existing between a red-hot iron and cold water—I don't know that a regular "phizz" had

ever occurred between them, but that was because they carefully avoided each other. Well, when the time arrived for collecting the amount subscribed, this unfortunate subscription list was in due course, and innocently enough, sent round to the General, and I leave you to imagine the *dénouement*. It is said the ill-used document reached the other side of the room in something less than the fraction of a second.

You will observe by the Hong Kong papers that the Colony has already engaged a small agitation in regard to Mr. Hennessy. Within a few weeks of our new governor's arrival he put his veto on flogging—a punishment which has been practised here with salutary results for many years—expressed himself strongly in regard to the night pass system, and openly questioned in the jail the legality of the sentences on certain of the offenders confined there—all of which made old residents here anticipate a rather bigger row than they had in Barbadoes. A tremendous hubbub was of course at once raised, and although the sentences of flogging have not yet been carried out, yet Mr. Hennessy has inaugurated no further changes, and has evidently recognised the advisability of drawing in his horns; perhaps, indeed, the discussions that have arisen may in some cases have induced him to change his opinions on certain matters.

Since I last wrote the affair of the Bishop and the students has been pretty well "shown up" in a letter addressed to one of the local papers. The facts that the accuracy of the statements in that letter have not been challenged, and that the proprietor of the paper (a cautious Scot, in which the letter appeared) ventured to admit such a communication, can, I think, leave little doubt that the remarkable circumstances set forth in the letter are actually matters of fact. I understand that out of the six students who arrived here with the Rev. Mr. Davys only two are left.

CANTON.

The *Daily Press* Correspondent writes:—

There is very little news of any interest to record at the present time in this port. The floods have not quite subsided, and the distress caused thereby has been in a great measure relieved by the subscriptions raised for that purpose. Up further inland there is still, I believe, a good deal of distress prevailing.

At daylight on the 30th ultimo a fire broke out in the eastern suburb, and in spite of all the efforts used to bring it under control, six houses were burned to the ground. The measures ordinarily taken to extinguish fires are very ineffective, and provided the flames once get a good hold on a building there is no doubt how it will end. The origin of this fire is unknown.

Information has reached me that at Tai Ping market, near the Bocca Tigris, all the shops have closed on account of the squeezes to which the shopkeepers have been subjected by the salt-smuggling detectives. This is one of those not uncommon instances where the last straw having been placed on the victim's back he turns and shows fight. There is no doubt that the shopkeepers and trading population are shamefully plundered by these rapacious officials.

The other day a junk moored in the river here had a very narrow escape of being burned. Its owner had quarrelled with the people of a similar craft, who threw a packet of gunpowder on board in revenge for some real or fancied injury.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

CANTON, JULY 6, 1877.

One of the leading items of intelligence in the last number of the *Peking Gazette* is to the effect that a military mandarin named Pan-sow, who was in command of the garrison at Khat-hum-paak-to-naap-teng, a remote place in Manchuria, has recently been dismissed the Imperial service. It appears that a man called Ko-chan-ming, having murdered eleven persons, all of whom were members of the same clan or patriarchate as himself, fled from justice. Pan-sow being unable to capture the runaway murderer, and knowing full well that if this proof of his inefficiency were made known to the Tartar-General, under whom he was indirectly serving, a severe reproof and degradation of rank would be the painful result, he resolved to conceal the whole matter. Three months, however, had scarcely elapsed when tidings of this tragical affair reached the ears of the Tartar-General, who at once called Pan-sow to account. Finding, after a careful investigation, that Pan-sow's conduct in regard to the case was highly reprehensible, he immediately reported him to the Throne, and thus became instrumental in his being dismissed from the Imperial service.

Haong-Kong-Chan, which is one of the political divisions of the province of Kwang-tung, or Canton, as it is more generally styled, has just been deprived of the services of a high, zealous, and able military officer, named Wei-cho-pong. It appears that the mandarin in question waged, during a rebellion which prevailed in certain parts of this province fifteen years ago, several successful battles against the insurgents. Receiving into his body, however, on this occasion, four ginseng bullets, which have never been extracted, he consequently became, a few months ago, so enfeebled as to be compelled to memorialise the Emperor for permission to retire from active service. This favour was granted, and Wei-cho-pong has now withdrawn with a greatly weakened body, and many well-earned honours, into private life. His successor in office is named Li-chim-chun.

Several of the principal bankers of this city of Canton have recently sustained most serious pecuniary losses, owing to the destruction by water of very large quantities of salt upon which they had advanced considerable sums of money. The salt in question was stored in warehouses at the prefectural city of Ling-chow, or Leen-chow, which city was, as I informed you a fortnight ago, almost, if not entirely, destroyed by a flood. The Ming-nen Bank, which was regarded as a wealthy and influential establishment, has failed, I regret to say, to a very great amount.

A melancholy boat accident occurred a few days ago at Siu-poo, which is near to Leen-shek. The particulars, which are as follows, may be briefly told:—The boat in question—a passenger boat—was struck, at the place already mentioned, when on her voyage to this city, by a squall, which was so heavy as not only to carry away her masts but also to capsize her. In the confusion which then ensued eight persons who were on board the ill-fated vessel met with a watery grave. This boat accident, however, is not the only one which I have to report. This will appear when I state that as two large passenger-boats were navigating, in close company, that passage of the Canton River which flows immediately in front of my house, the crew of one boat began to "chaff" the crew of the other. This *badinage*—which quickly led to an exchange of very severe expletives—was eventually followed by a free fight, the combatants arming themselves on the occasion with long bamboo poles and boat-hooks. At length one of these bellicose crews, thinking that victory was about to declare against them, had recourse to "stink-pots"—one of which on being thrown with force and precision upon the deck of the contending ship exploded, and not only set fire to her sails, which, of course, were speedily consumed, but, at the same time, seriously injured one of the passengers.

On the 29th ult. a fire occurred in the Chuuk-wang-sha-street of this city. This conflagration, which originated in a boat-building establishment called Yaubop, was, owing to the skill and exertions of the Chinese fire-brigades, quickly extinguished; not more than five houses were destroyed by the devouring element. The Imperial Edict prohibiting opium-smoking has caused a sensation here. Printed copies of this Edict are being sold daily in all the streets and public squares of the city by itinerant newsvendors. Let us hope that the vicious and depraved habit of opium-smoking, which has for so many years been the bane of this great people, may receive at once a decided check, and be eventually rooted out of the land. Gambling, so far as the city of Canton is concerned, has, I am glad to say, been almost entirely suppressed by the excellent officials who now bear rule in this part of his Majesty's dominions. There are evidently, however, some dens in which this ruinous pastime is still secretly practised. Thus, when passing a few days since the entrance gates of the Tai-Fut-tze, or Monastery of the Great Buddha, two Chinese soldiers, who had, clearly, just emerged from a private gambling saloon, were engaged in a very bitter quarrel. The one had lost money to the other, and the loser not possessing the amount demanded by the winner, angry feelings quickly arose. Bitter taunts now followed, and at length recourse was had to knives. Blood having been shed on both sides, several policemen appeared on the scene, and collaring the belligerents, removed them to a place of safe keeping.

On the 2nd inst. nine malefactors—pirates—were decapitated on the public execution ground of this city. No sooner had these unfortunate men been arranged in a line in order to receive the fatal blow, than one of their number—a man named Lau-hoo-tau, being angry and sullen, positively refused to kneel down. After a few moments spent in altercation, an attendant on the sheriff dealt him two or three hard blows on the knees—an unseemly and cruel punishment this, which had the desired effect.

The 3rd instant was a great holiday here. Thus, the Cantonese were engaged throughout the day in celebrating the natal-anniversary of a goddess named Choo-tze-laong-laong, who is supposed to be invested with a certain amount of authority in regard to winds and rains. Amongst the many devotees who on this anniversary do honour to Choo-tze are sailors from the salt junks. This circumstance is owing, it is said, to the fact of the goddess having, during a cyclone which prevailed at Canton more than one hundred and fifty years ago, miraculously preserved a large fleet of salt junks from destruction.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

MANILA.

The *Gazeta* publishes a decree of the Governor General dated the 18th June, amending the regulations regarding auction sales of manufactured tobacco for exportation. The following is the document referred to:—

Article 1. Conformably with the provisions of the Royal order of the 27th October, 1869, no manufactured tobacco shall hereafter be set apart for exportation other than what is in excess of the quantity required for internal consumption.

Article 2. This excess shall be determined monthly by the general directorate of the Public Treasury at the request of the Central Admin-

stration of revenues from monopolies, and, as heretofore, shall be sold by juridical or public auction.

Art. 3. The samples of tobacco that may be brought out for sale for exportation shall continue to be exhibited to the public in the general privileged repositories.

Art. 4. The persons to whom the whole or part of the said tobacco may be adjudged by the Junta of Royal auctions shall pay the amount of its price into the central treasury, on the first clear day following that on which the juridical auction took place.

Art. 5. The tobacco obtained at the auction sales cannot be changed, removed, or resold, in case it be exclusively intended for exportation. The buyers will receive the manufactured article in boxes with the usual marks, and, furthermore, with a label which will be placed on occasions of general auctions, and on which will appear the word "exportation," the date of the auction at which the tobacco had been adjudged, the seal of the central administration of revenues from monopolies, and the signatures of the manager and of the employé charged to be expressly present at the act of delivery.

Art. 6. Within the three days allowed for delivery in favour of the buyers, the latter shall take away the tobacco from the storing-houses on the strict condition of exporting it within the period of six months, to be counted from the date of its adjudication.

Advices from Cayan in the district of Lepanto state that it is to be feared that during the present year there will be a great scarcity of food in the district, owing to the total failure of the crops, both of rice, sweet and other potatoes and pot herbs. What little rice was being sold by retail had risen to double its former price, it being quoted at \$2 per cavan. There were no potatoes, and but few beans in store.

In the province of Ilocos Sur the cultivators were planting paddy and indigo, after twelve days of incessant rain. The indigo crop there this year is expected to be short, owing to the great drought that prevailed in that province from Sept. 1876 to the middle of May last, making sowing in high lands impossible.

The *Diario* of June 22 states that the price of rice at Manila was still inconveniently high, a cavan of ordinary quality selling at 3 dollars and 6 reals. Paddy was selling at 2 dollars per cavan.

In the province of Isabela heavy rains had swollen the rivers and done damage to tobacco on the point of being cut or harvested.

The town of Lavag, the capital of the province of Ilocos Norte, has suffered from a terrible fire. One hundred and eighty houses were consumed, the eastern portion of the town being destroyed.

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

The *Batavia Handelsblad* of the 3rd July states that since the departure of the previous mail no news has been received from Atchin. Up to the 18th June no further particulars were known at Kotta Rajah regarding the operations against Analabu, under the command of Major du Pon. From Ternate news has been received that Dana Babu Hassan, the rebel chief, has concealed himself near a lake situated to the east of Weda, and that the Resident was busy getting together a large force from Ternate, Tidore, and Bachan, in order to attack him in his hiding-place. From the Resident's reports, the larger portion of the inhabitants of Patani and Maba will submit so soon as the Resident shows himself there, but the headmen of these places wish to continue true to Hassan to the end, as is also the case with the band of 200 Alfurds who accompany him.

Pirates, by last accounts, were still practising kidnapping frequently in the neighbourhood of Timor. A new steamer, the *Samarang*, which lately came out from Europe to cruise against them, has had her destination changed for Atchin, to take part in the intended expedition to Samalanga.

The *Java Bode* of the 2nd July states that one of the persons guilty of the attack on the estate of the Netherlands Trading Company at Edi was hanged there on the 9th June, and that three others have been sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude.

Heavy shocks of earthquake were felt at Wonogiri in Java on the 10th June, and a very heavy vertical shock was noticed at Painan in Sumatra on May 31st.

It is stated that the dividend of the Netherlands Indian Railway Company for the last financial year has been fixed at 5½ per cent.

Cholera continued to carry off victims both from amongst Europeans and Natives at Batavia.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

SINGAPORE.

The present P. and O. mail brings advices from this port to the 15th July; the French mail from London, June 15, was received on the 14th July. We take the following items of intelligence from the *Straits Times*:—

The body of the late Sultan Allie of Johore, we have been informed, was buried on the 8th July at Umbai, in Malacca territory, where he died. There were present H. H. the Maharajah of Johore, the Tumongong of Moa, the Chief of

Jompole, and a number of the other Chiefs of the Malay States, and it was estimated that the concourse of Malays, Chinese, and Portuguese present amounted to over 3,000. The British Government was represented by the Hon. J. Douglas, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, the Hon. C. J. Irving, Lieutenant Governor of Malacca, Mr. Trevenen, &c., and a guard of twenty-four policemen under Mr. Superintendent Hayward, and two inspectors. The coffin, which was very heavy, was carried by 150 bearers. On the right side marched in the procession the late Sultan's own relatives and people, and on the left the Maharajah of Johore's people. The ceremonies were simple; and, in accordance with Malay custom, gold pieces and *nasih punyet* were thrown among the crowd. Two omissions were remarked upon. One was that there was no guard of honour such as was provided by the British Government at the funeral of the late Sultan's father. The other was that, in accordance with Malay custom, there was no successor immediately proclaimed. The reason for this latter omission was doubtless a political one. The late Sultan may be said to have been the last Sultan of Johore. Since 1855, when by treaty he made over all claim and title to the Sovereignty of Johore to the then Tumongong of Johore, he has been Sultan merely in name, and to proclaim a successor to a nominal title, according to the old Malay fashion, as if he was a reigning Sultan with power in his hands, might lead to delusion and misunderstanding as to the real position and status of the late Sultan's legitimate heir. This might cause future mischief and do no possible good. For, whatever may be thought now of what was done in the past, one thing is certain, that the past is the past, and cannot be undone or recalled, and it is best that this should be at once understood and accepted.

The question as to Sultan Allie's successor, or rather heir, is complicated by a dispute as to who he should be. As we are informed, he left four sons, Tunku Allum, the eldest, Tunku Sley-mau, Tunku Soolong, and Tunku Mahmoud. Tunku Allum is the son of a Bugis Princess, is about thirty-two years old, and the dispute lies between him and Tunku Mahmoud, the youngest son, a boy of six or seven years old, but whose mother was not of the blood royal. According to European notions, Tunku Allum is unquestionably the true heir, and he has the strongest of claims, even according to Malay notions, being of the blood royal on both sides, which Tunku Mahmoud, it is said, cannot claim to be. It is difficult to understand, indeed, upon what grounds Tunku Mahmoud and his partisans base his claim. It is rumoured that it is the intention of Government not to acknowledge any right of the late Sultan Allie's heir to the title of Sultan of Johore, on the ground that the title became extinct when the sovereignty of Johore was transferred to the Tumongong, and was allowed to Sultan Allie merely as a matter of courtesy. Moreover, it is stated that the pension of Sultan Allie will be discontinued to the family, and the Maharajah of Johore will take charge of the territory of Moar or Kessang. We do not know what truth there may be in these rumours, but if there be any, it is to be feared that this harsh and high-handed treatment of a family held in high respect by the Malays, in virtue of its representing the old blood royal of Johore, will be deeply resented and cause discontent and trouble. Something more than dollars and cents and hard and fast rules should be considered by a liberal and humane Government in a case of this kind, and we trust that H.E. the Administrator and his Council will consider well before coming to a final decision.

We learn from Malacca that a collision is reported to have taken place on the 3rd July off Pulo Pesang, between the British steamer *Fleurs Castle*, which left this port for London on the same day, and a Chinese junk, by which it was reported in Malacca that five Chinamen were drowned. The report of the captain of the *Fleurs Castle*, given at Malacca, is simply that he had picked up sixteen Chinese, being the crew or passengers of a Chinese junk, with which his vessel had come into collision, but the report does not mention the precise locality in which they were picked up. A report of the matter was made to the Lieut. Governor, and he has forwarded the papers containing all the particulars for the perusal of H.E. the Administrator, and Captain Ellis, the Master Attendant, will hold an investigation into the circumstances.

His Highness Tunku Oodin, Viceroy of Salangore, arrived here on the 10th July by the Burmah steamer *Busheer*. When the vessel had anchored in the harbour, Captain Douglas, H.B.M.'s Resident to Salangore, went on board to receive his Highness, who landed at Johnston's pier, where he was received by a guard of honour of police under the command of Mr. Superintendent Maxwell. Only a few natives were present at the landing, and his Highness, accompanied by Captain Douglas, at once left for the Clarendon Hotel, where apartments had been taken for him.

Hotel property would seem to be the best paying and most profitable investment in Singapore. Even freeholds in the city of London must hide their diminished heads before the prices which hotels realise here. For instance, the Hotel de l'Europe, which is held upon lease for only a short term, at a monthly rental of \$820, is in the market for sale by private contract, and an enterprising hotel proprietor has, we understand, offered for the goodwill and furniture the enormous sum of \$35,000! Surely, in the face of this, money-lending at cent. per cent. can-

not be nearly so lucrative as the dispensing of drinks to thirsty souls.

It appears that the American dollar is not the only one which has been fraudulently imitated. We have just seen a specimen of the Hong Kong Dollar of 1867, which has been passed through an eliminating process of such a nature as to reduce its value to a minimum. It has been split, and the silver in the centre extracted; and the dodge has been so cleverly done as to defy detection except by ringing the coin.

We believe the commander, officers and men of H.M.S. *Groveler* have not had reason to launch into ecstasies over the climate of Labuan. Owing to fever and malaria, which they caught on their late trip to that island and Borneo, almost the whole of the officers and men are sick, and, with the exception of the Commander and Paymaster, we understand, all of the former are unfit for duty.

Among the passengers who arrived here by the E. and A. steamer *Somerset* was Mr. Henri L'Estrange, the Australian Blondin, whose feat in crossing Sydney Harbour on a tight rope on several occasions in May last created a great sensation throughout Australia, and may be pronounced unequalled in the records of similar performances. Mr. L'Estrange is on his way to America and Europe, and, prior to his departure, as we are informed, intends to give one or two performances here.

The remains of the late Italian patriot (General Nino Bixio), which were handed by the Netherlands-India Government to the Italian Consul here, and which were afterwards cremated, are to be forwarded to Genoa by Messrs. R. Rubattino and Co.'s mail steamer *Batavia*, which is advertised to leave Singapore about the 20th August.

We learn from Perak that Rajah Mansur, the son of Rajah Muda Yusuf, lately ran amok at Sayong, killing six, and severely wounding two persons. He afterwards escaped into the jungle, and orders have been given to arrest, but not to injure him. He is about twenty years old.

A lamentable accident has occurred at the P. and O. wharf. George Silver, second engineer of the *Teheran*, fell into the water, while walking along the wharf, and though he was soon taken out perfectly sensible, and apparently not seriously injured, he died in about two hours afterwards from syncope.

Captain T. Todd, the Deputy Master Attendant, has been granted six weeks' privilege leave, and we have not heard who will perform his duties during his absence.

The following notifications appear in the *Gazette*:—
Captain Alexander Bowers has been appointed Examiner of Masters and Mates under Act I. of 1859, and Member of the Pilot Board at Penang, vice Captain Alexander Distant.

Captain T. A. Fox, Harbour Master of Penang, has obtained two months' extension of leave of absence, with half salary, from the 7th August.

The Secretary of State has approved of the appointment of Mr. H. C. Vaughan as Deputy Registrar, Supreme Court, Penang.

The Rev. L. C. Biggs has been appointed to act as Colonial Chaplain, Penang, from the 11th July, vice Rev. A. Fearon, resigned.

Mr. A. D. Neubronner and Mr. W. H. Wormsley (Province Wellesley) have been appointed Coroners of Penang Settlement.

Mr. G. Lavino has taken charge of the Netherlands Consulate in Penang, from the 10th July, during the absence of M. H. J. D. Paddy.

The average note circulation of the Chartered Bank in Penang during June was \$170,000.

PENANG.

The Rev. A. Fearon, the retiring Colonial Chaplain, has received an address from the Tamil members of his congregation. The principal passages of this document are subjoined:—

We, the undersigned Tamil members of St. George's Church, hear with deepfelt sorrow that you will shortly, under Divine permission, leave our shores to work in another field, and we therefore hasten to express to you our gratitude for the numerous spiritual benefits which we have received from you during the short time God has been pleased to place us under your spiritual superintendence. Every one of your considerate and benevolent acts towards us—your treatment of every Tamil member of your flock without any consideration of his social position or of his possessions of this world—your opportune and delicate ministrations and attentions to the sick and poor—your readiness to administer the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and Baptism and other rites and ceremonies of the Church, whenever we have needed your kind exhortations and advice both in the Church and in our private houses, these and other benefits which we enjoyed under your Pastorate are indelibly impressed in our minds, and will long remain so. It is impossible to forget such favours. But what still further binds us and future generations to honour and cherish your memory is the indefatigable, and under God's blessing, successful exertions to form a Tamil Pastorate in Penang for the first time, in the history of the Church of England Mission Field in the Straits Settlements.

We, the Tamil Christians, are the poorest of the community in Penang, and we are, besides, few in number. We are, therefore, unable to beg you to take from these shores, from us, such a memento of the relations that subsisted between you and us as our heart would wish. While we are unwilling you should leave this colony without receiving our expressions of gratitude towards us, we are equally unwilling that you should leave us without a token of respect from us. We do, therefore, earnestly solicit you to accept from us this Address and this Bible, as the latter we consider and revere as the most precious Gift of God, and which we, therefore, present to you.

In reply to the address the Rev. A. Fearon expressed his gratitude for the token of love and esteem presented to him, and, in bidding his Tamil flock an affectionate farewell, called upon them earnestly to maintain the welfare of the Mission by acting in their daily lives up to the sacred truths of the Gospel.

The *Penang Gazette* announces that great complaints are made by those interested in the welfare of Laroot regarding the proposed imposition of certain extra taxes in that district by the Resident. It is stated that the duty on rice is to be raised from two cents a bag to a 5 per cent. *ad valorem* rate, which rate is also to apply to all other articles imported, excepting tobacco, which is to bear the extraordinary tax of \$3.50 per box, the present rate being only seventy cents, while opium will have to bear an impost of \$160 dollars a chest. It is to be hoped that Mr. Low is acting advisedly in these matters; to outsiders it appears an unwise policy to inflict a crushing tax on a new and undeveloped country. It is to be hoped that he does not consider the only object of his Government is to show a good balance-sheet. This we know has been the policy of the Labuan administration; but it requires no prophet to predict that a similar one applied to Perak will be suicidal in the extreme. We furthermore cannot avoid expressing an opinion that the total withdrawal of British troops (which is an accomplished fact) from Perak is a premature and ill-advised act at the present moment.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

BLOOM—On the 30th June, at Saison, the wife of J. H. Bloom, of a daughter.
BUGGES—On the 13th Aug., at Clifton, the wife of Daniel Travers Bugges, of Bristol, of a son.
CARTER—On the 6th Aug., at Auckland-road, New Wandsworth, S.W., the wife of Horace Carter, of a daughter (Enid Isabel).
CARTER—On the 11th Aug., at Notting-hill, the wife of Wm. Carter, of a son.
CLARK—On the 28th June, at Shanghai, the wife of J. D. Clark, of a daughter.
CRAWFORD—On the 5th July, at Hong Kong, Mrs. D. R. Crawford, of a son.
DE STRAUVE—On the 1st July, at the Russian Legation, Tokio, the wife of C. de Struve, Minister-Plenipotentiary of Russia, of a daughter.
FORREST—On the 11th Aug., at Chambers Court, Tewkesbury, the wife of John Forrest, of a son.
JAMIESON—On the 27th June, at Chelso, the wife of G. Jamieson, H.B.M. Acting Consul, of a daughter.
LEVYSOHN—On the 2nd July, at Sharnon, Canton, Mrs. Alexander C. Levysohn, of a son.
LOVERIDGE—On the 11th July, at Singapore, the wife of T. C. Loveridge, of a daughter.
MARCUS—On the 11th July, at Singapore, the wife of W. J. Marcus, of a daughter.
MENZIES—On the 14th Aug., at Blackheath, the wife of Lieut. col. H. C. Menzies, Madras Staff Corps, of a daughter.
MONRO—On the 15th Aug., at Frederick Villa, Crordon, the wife of G. A. Monro, of a daughter.
NORTON—On the 9th Aug., at Glebe Lodge, Blackheath, the wife of Jason Delves Norton, of a son.
SMITH—On the 10th Aug., at 109, Grosvenor-road, Fimlico, London, the wife of E. P. Bismopp Smith, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CALDWELL—CHOPPE—On the 6th Aug., at the British Embassy at Paris, by the Rev. W. J. Laycock, Edwin Charles Caldwell, of South Kensington, London, to Elizabeth Ann Choppe, of Bideford, county Devon.
CURRIE—ARM THORN—On the 29th July, at St. Stephen's Church, Hampstead, by the Rev. John Kingscote Hawker, Andrew Currie to Harriet Eliza Armstrong.
HARRIES—WAKELING—On the 14th Aug., at St. Anne's Church, St. Martin-le-Grand, London, by the Rev. R. D. Harries, M.A. (brother of the bridegroom), W. H. Harries, of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, to Julia, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Wakeling, of Cambridge; confirming American civil marriage.
THORNE—UNDERHILL—On the 13th Aug., at St. Peter's Church, Wolverhampton by the Rev. H. T. Inman, M.A., Diocesan Inspector for Derbyshire, assisted by the Rev. J. T. Jeffcock, M.A., Rector, Edwin Henry Thorne to Ethel, only daughter of Henry Underhill, of Wolverhampton.
WORTHINGTON—SOLLY—On 11th Aug., in the Marion Kirche, Berlin, Arthur Mason Worthington, youngest son of the late Robert Worthington, of Manchester, to Helen, second daughter of the late Thomas Solly, Professor at the University of Berlin.

DEATHS.

BARRIE—On the 22nd July, at Yokohama, William Wylie, son of William and Ellen Barrie, aged 8 months and 16 days.
FINDLAY—On the 9th Aug., at Klingen, Bavaria, Charles Bannatyne Findlay, of the firm of Richardson, Findlay and Co.
MAKELLAR—On the 12th Aug., at Edinburgh, John A. Makellar, younger son of the late Rev. Dr. Makellar, aged 59.
PAPE—On the 3rd July, at Yokohama, Robert Pape, aged 34 years, late master of the British barque *Maitland*.
PLACH—On the 9th July, at Singapore, Anna Maria, wife of Mr. Lourenco de Souza Plach.
ROGERS—On the 25th June at Shanghai, George Rogers, Collector and Overseer of Rates to the Municipal Council, Shanghai.

Market Reports.

(For dates see first page.)

IMPORTS.

YOKOHAMA.—The Chamber of Commerce Circular of July 9 says:—In imports business generally has been more active. In Yarns Nos. 16/24 have declined in value, while Nos. 25/32 have met with ready sale at a slight improvement. Grey Shirtings: Sales of very low qualities of 8½ lbs. have further depressed the values of such makes, while the higher qualities are wanted at an advance—9 lbs., 45 in. goods, especially of the better makes, have met with more inquiry at higher prices. Fair sales of 7 lbs. T. Cloths have been made. The demand for Indigo Shirtings has improved. Black Velvets have met with good inquiry, at a slight advance. Fair clearances of the lighter weights of Turkey Reds have been effected, at about previous rates: heavier goods have slightly advanced in value. Prints and Cotton Italians continue very dull. In Woollens rather more inquiry for Black Lustres, at low rates, has to be noted—also for Italian Cloth and Mousselines. Blankets continue saleable. Blue Army Cloth is still

wanted. There is no new feature to notice in Metals; holders are unable to obtain any advance, and the few sales reported have been at the lowest range of quotation.

SHANGHAI.—The week had witnessed greater activity, and a still further improvement in the market for all plain Cotton textiles, saving only some of the lower counts and descriptions of Grey and White Shirtings and T-Cloths; but Fancy Goods had not been much wanted, and Woollens had barely held their own. The news from Tientsin had continued favourable, and at Chefoo trade was showing signs of revival, having been brought back to life and hope by the abundant wheat harvest which the people of that region had just secured. The letters from Chinkiang, also, although they do not report any abatement of the locust plague, were more cheerful in tone, and spoke more hopefully of the future, while farther up the river the latest advices reported more doing.

SAIGON.—The market continued very dull, and prices of nearly all imports were lower.

EXPORTS.

TEA.

YOKOHAMA.—Telegrams coming to hand reporting sales of new Teas ex City of Peking, at prices below what was generally expected, the market relapsed into a state of dullness. Arrivals, however, coming forward very freely natives showed more disposition to press sales, and a decline in prices had occurred—fully accounted for by the poorer quality of the Teas offered. Settlements during the fortnight had amounted to nearly 10,000 piculs, almost entirely composed of the lowest grades, finest, and upwards, being neglected. The Etta Loring had been laid on for New York at £2 15s. per 40 cubic feet, and the s.s. Glamis Castle was expected to load for New York, via China and Suez Canal, at £4. Quotations:—Common, \$10 to 12 per picul; good common, \$13 to 15; medium, \$16 to 18; good medium, \$19 to 21; fine, \$24 to 26; finest, \$28 to 30. Export from May 1 to date:—To New York, 2,421,719 lbs.; to San Francisco, 427,587 lbs.; to Boston, Chicago, &c., 1,307,621 lbs.; to England, &c., 903 lbs.; total, 4,157,830 lbs.

HANKOW.—During the week only a small business had been done, the prominent feature having been the opening of the market for second-crop Teas, Yang-lo-tung chiefly having been taken at Tls. 15½ to 17½ = 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2½d. against Tls. 23½ to 26 = 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6½d. last year. Musters of first crop teas continued to be placed on the market, nearly all common teas. The market generally was firm, buyers hoping that the embarrasments of the majority of teamen would prevent their packing large second and third crops.

SHANGHAI.—Black: A good business has been done during the week. Fine teas, which had become more difficult to pick out of the large stock on offer, fully maintained previous rates, but common descriptions had shown a drop of one or two taels, teamen being very anxious to get rid of them. At the close, however, the market was very firm, and common teas had recovered a tael. The bulk of the supply, and consequently of the settlements, could hardly be classed better than good common, and the reports of the second crop had not led to expectations of much improvement in future receipts. Green Tea: Buying had continued during the week, both for England and America, at about opening rates; and though arrivals had been large, the settlements had been sufficient to maintain prices at fully ten per cent. above home values, the shipments to America costing five cents per lb. above what the early arrivals sold for in New York last season. The quality of this crop continued to be extremely poor. The settlements for the week amounted to the equivalent of 6,000 half-chests, Pingsuey at Tls. 21 to 34½, and 200 half-chests fine Hoochow kind at Tls. 42.

FOOCHOW.—The coast port steamer had not arrived at Hong Kong when this mail left. There are, consequently, no later advices from this port.

SILK.

YOKOHAMA.—For a few days after the date of last report (June 23) prices were rather weaker; the demand, however, became somewhat more active towards the close, and this, coupled with light arrivals, had enabled dealers to obtain an advance of \$20 to 30 per picul, the market closing firm. Better qualities of Hanks were being brought forward slowly, though as yet mostly full sized Silk. Dealers allege that current rates would not cover cost in the interior, where producers were reluctant sellers at existing prices. Quotations: Hanks, good, No. 2, 19s. 9d. to 20s. 5d. per lb.; good all round No. 2½, 18s. 8d. to 19s. 5d. per lb.; medium No. 3, 17s. 4d. to 18s. per lb. Oshiu, good 19s. to 19s. 9d. per lb. Hamatski, good to best, \$440 to 460 per picul; 16s. 7d. to 17s. 4d. per lb.

SHANGHAI.—The North China Herald report says:—Nearly a month has elapsed since the new Silk commenced to arrive at this port, and business to the extent of some 65 bales has at last been done. The market opened a day or two since with the purchase of Buffalo chop No. 2, Beautiful Woman No. 2, Dancing Bear No. 2, and Double Phoenix No. 2 Teatles at Tls. 415 to 420, and S.S.S. Dollar chop at Tls. 390. The two largest native holders—viz., the owners of the Blue Elephant and Gold Lion chops, have, it appears, failed to come to terms, and any further buying that would probably have taken place to a small extent for the first steamer has been prohibited by the further advance demanded by the Chinamen on the rates above quoted. The silkmen generally will be unwilling to buy in the country with the knowledge that one firm only is in the market here; prices are certain to be stiffer for a time from the mere fact that opening rates in Shanghai are considerably higher than looked for, and although arrivals may possibly be on an increased scale as compared with the last two or three weeks, the knowledge that Continental buyers are unable to ship will tend to increase the indecision of those Chinamen who as yet are uninterested in the new crop. Opening prices are nearly Tls. 80 per picul higher than last season's, and about on a par with those ruling for the mail of 1st July, 1876. Settlements of new Silk are 65 bales,

against 8,000 bales last year, and some 30 bales of old re-reels have been taken at Tls. 330 to 410. Arrivals are within 2,500 bales, against 20,000 bales last year. Stocks are 2,400 bales of new Silk and about 7,000 of old cargo.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAIGON.—Messrs. Kaltenbach, Engler and Co.'s report says:—Rice: The market throughout has been ruling firm, and despite the decline which recently occurred at Hong Kong, prices at this have advanced, owing to limited supplies from the interior, a pretty large amount of tonnage present in port having to be provided for, and a rather sudden and important demand having sprung up for the Philippines, which towards the close, however, shows some falling off. The quantity of grain so far contracted for the Philippines comprises some 175,000 piculs, including about 50,000 piculs white steamed milled Rice No. 2. Cotton: Slightly lower; we quote cleaned No. 1 \$16.50 per picul, and No. 2 10.40 and 4.85 per picul for uncleaned. Fish: "Sapat" has somewhat receded whilst, the other kinds have advanced in the face of a considerable reduction perceptible in stocks. Hides: Scoured Cow have receded to \$16.30 per picul, unprepared ditto maintained its former value, viz., \$12 per picul, and Buffalo are quoted \$8 per picul. Horns: Uncleaned quoted \$8 to 10 per picul, according to quality. Gamboge: Nominally quoted \$50 to 52 per picul. Pepper: Commands the same as last advised price, say \$7.75 per picul. Salt is in small supply and quoted 18 to 20 cents per picul.

SINGAPORE.—Messrs. Boustead and Co.'s Report says:—Tin: During the past fortnight arrivals have been on a moderate scale, and although London advices have been unfavourable, prices here have ruled higher: for England, 840 piculs have been taken at \$19.62½; for America, 1,050 piculs at \$19.50 to 19.42½; for Bombay, 150 piculs at \$19.45; and for China, 300 piculs of unsmelted at \$19.25. These purchases have cleared the market of available supplies, and just at close \$19.45 has been paid to arrive for the States. Gambier: The first transaction after the departure of last mail was at \$4.52½, an advance of 7½ cents, at which only 50 tons were secured. Improved advices from London then led to an active inquiry, and dealers at once raised the price to \$4.60, at which 800 tons have since been taken, all for England, except 100 tons bought for America. Last home quotations show a further improvement, and dealers are now very firm. Cube Gambier: A fair business has been done for England and America, in No. 1 at \$5.60 to 6; and in No. 2 at \$5.37½. Cutch: No arrivals, nor transactions; wanted for the States at our previous quotation of \$5½. Black Pepper: About 2,500 piculs were taken early in the fortnight for England at \$7.55 to 7.70, after which dealers refused to sell except at an advance, and about 6,100 piculs were placed at \$8 to 7.75, closing quiet at the lower quotation. White Pepper has been in better request, and higher prices have ruled; sales reported comprise 1,650 piculs of Singapore kind at \$13½ to 15½, Rhio at \$12 to 14.90, and Siam at \$14½. Coffee has continued to be wanted for England, and arrivals of 1,020 piculs of Bontyne were readily placed at \$22½, while 970 piculs of unpicked Bally were also purchased at \$17.75, clearing the market. The quality of this year's crop of Bontyne Coffee is considerably better than that of last, arrivals so far having been free from black and diseased beans. Nutmegs: Transactions reported amount to about 170 piculs for the States at \$68 to 70; market is now cleared, but further supplies expected soon, for which an advanced price is asked to arrive. Macs: No. 1 is quoted nominal at \$50, at which there are no buyers. Cloves: Amboyna have been sold to a small extent at \$43 to 41, but the bulk of stock, which is considerable, is held for more. Cubebs: No transactions. Sago Flour: Fair sales to note; 330 tons of Sarawak and Borneo on the spot at \$3.02½, and 250 tons of the latter description to arrive at \$3.02½/4. Pearl Sago: There has been an active inquiry for England, and a good business has been done; 6,500 piculs taken at \$3.57½/55 for small, \$3.65 for medium, and \$3.75 for large. Tapioca has also been wanted, and fine qualities continue to command high prices, while inferior are not so saleable. About 1,950 piculs of small and medium flake have fetched \$5 to 6; and small medium and large pearl, to the extent of 200 piculs, \$4.35 to 5. Borneo Rubber: Sale, 70 piculs reported at \$28 to 31½, clearing the market. Gutta Percha: The demand has improved, and prices generally are higher. Buffalo Hides are scarce, and although there is a good inquiry, the only sales to note are 100 piculs of No. 2 Siam at \$9, and 100 piculs of No. 1 Singapore at \$11½. Cow Hides: Nothing done for export. Buffalo Horns: A further sale to note of 100 piculs 3½ lbs. at \$11.20, and a similar quantity of 3 lbs. at \$10½. Gum Dammar: Little doing; a small sale at \$15½ has cleared the market for the States; there is still a demand at close. Gum Copal wanted for the States, and 500 piculs of unpicked have been placed at \$4½; for stocks of 1,000 piculs \$4½, for picked, has been offered and refused. Gum Benjamin: No sales reported. Gamboge: Sellers of picked at \$5½, but no buyers. Vegetable Tallow: No supplies at market, and none looked for at present. M. O. P. Shells: Arrivals of 20 piculs Macassar sold for \$41; market very quiet. Sapanwood: No change. Siam quoted \$1.70 to 1.80. Rattans: The demand continues, and with small arrivals prices keep very firm.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London, Aug. 12, Atholl (str.).
At SHANGHAI.—From Sydney, June 23, Rachel; 24, Blackadder; from New Zealand, 29, Ada Wiswell.
At HONG KONG.—From New York, July 1, Jotun; from Newcastle, N.S.W., 5, Thorkila, Fugitive; from Liverpool, 5, Johanne; from Honolulu, Coringa; from Hamburg, Aug. 11, Adolf; from Cardiff, 11, Antipodes, 12, Paracca; from Antwerp, 11, Khedive; from Troon, 12, Star of the North; from New York, 13, Saracen.
At SINGAPORE.—From Hamburg, Aug. 13, Hesperia (str.); from Cardiff, 13, Boldon, Rebecca.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London, June 24, Windhover; 26, Glengyle (str.); Aug. 5, Galatea (str.).
From HONG KONG.—For London, July 6, Monelaus (str.).
From SINGAPORE.—For New York, July 7, Teviot (str.); August 16, Glenorchy (str.); for London, July 9, Glengyle (str.); 10, Gordon Castle (str.); August 13, Glenfalloch (str.); for Hamburg, July 11, Adelaide.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDRA.

Date.	Ship.	From.	To.
June 12	Golden Spar	Cardiff	Hong Kong
"	Canraore	Singapore	Mauritius
" 13	Penrith	London	Hong Kong
"	Samantha	Aberdeen	Yokohama
"	Deerfoot	Sunderland	Singapore
"	Helena	Singapore	Liverpool
"	Janet Ferguson	Glasgow	Singapore
"	Berwickshire	London	Do.
"	Isla of the South	Cardiff	Hong Kong
"	Salu	Do.	Do.
"	A. J. de la Graviere	Singapore	Mauritius
" 14	Chloria	Cardiff	Order
"	Theresa Behn	Do.	Hong Kong
"	Empress	Sunderland	Singapore
"	Eemindar	Liverpool	Do.
"	Johanne	Do.	China
"	Gold Hunter	Cardiff	Hong Kong
"	Piety Cross	Newcastle	Batavia
"	Annie Lowry	Cardiff	Order
"	Torrington (s.s.)	Batavia	Scotland
" 15	Lottie Warren	Liverpool	Order
"	Glenfruin	Greenock	Singapore
"	Ironsides	Singapore	London
" 16	Annie Reid	Cardiff	Singapore
"	Orion	Sunderland	Bangkok
"	Princess Amalia (s.s.)	Batavia	Holland
" 17	Retriever	Australia	Amoy
"	Maipu	Cardiff	Hong Kong
"	Wieland	New York	Batavia
" 19	Glen Caladh	Java	Falmouth
"	Gein	Cardiff	Singapore
"	N. Gibson	Cebu	New York
"	Sooloo	Ilo Ilo	Boston
"	Olivet	Bangkok	London
" 20	Parraca	Cardiff	Hong Kong
"	Prospero	Singapore	Adelaide
"	Apolline Emilie	Havre	Saigon
"	Monarchy	Ilo Ilo	New York
" 21	Kentish Tar	Cape Town	Batavia
"	Macquarie	Fremantle	Do.
" 23	Subahani	Do.	Singapore
"	Phillips Van Marnix	Flushing	Samarang
"	Evelyn Wood	Newport	Order
"	Mystic Belle	Hong Kong	New York
" 24	Nyassa	Do.	London
" 25	County of Elgin	Glasgow	Batavia
"	Roseneath	Cape Town	Do.
"	Ariadne	Cronstad	Amur River
"	Strathnairn	Ilo Ilo	New York
" 26	Good Luck	Singapore	Fremantle
"	Messenger	New York	Hong Kong
"	Sydenham	Cardiff	Do.
"	Aleppo	Liverpool	Singapore

TELEGRAMS FROM THE FAR EAST.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

SHANGHAI, AUGUST 11.—Tone of Cotton Goods quiet; 8½ lbs. Grey Shirtings, Tls. 1.8.7.; Cotton, Fair Medium, China, Tls. 11. Silk quiet.

HONG KONG MARKET REPORT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

HONG KONG, AUGUST 11.—Tone of Cotton Goods flat; 8½ lbs. Grey Shirtings, \$2.27½; 16-24 Water Twist \$97; Fair Bengal Cotton, \$12½. Total export of Tea to date 85,000,000 lbs.

EXPORTS FROM YOKOHAMA.

	From May 1, 1876-7.	From May 1, 1875-6.	From May 1, 1874-5.	From May 1, 1873-4.
To New York	10,670,287	18,127,857	10,952,774	8,409,838
" San Francisco	3,092,709	3,154,806	4,461,329	3,459,132
" Boston, Chi-				
cago, &c.	2,237,397	2,565,543	1,132,186	996,372
" England	211,285	37,537		
Total	16,211,628	18,885,743	16,546,289	12,865,342

	From July 1, 1876-7.	From July 1, 1875-6.	From July 1, 1874-5.	From July 1, 1873-4.
To England	10,760	4,878	5,214	7,015
" France	2,584	8,362	6,246	6,254
" America	150	108	115	162
" Other countries	723	243	366	1,089
Total	21,217	13,591	11,941	14,520

EXCHANGES, &c.

(For date see first page.)
ON LONDON.

At	Bank Bills.	Credits.	Documentary.
Yokohama, 6 m.s.	4s. 1d.	4s. 1½d. to 4s. 1½d.	4s. 1½d.
Shanghai	5s. 6d. to 5s. 6½d.	5s. 5½d.	5s. 5½d.
Canton			
Hong Kong	4s. 0½d. to 4s. 0½d.	4s. 1d. to 4s. 1½d.	4s. 1½d. to 4s. 1½d.
Manila			
Singapore	4s. 1½d.	4s. 1½d. to 4s. 1½d.	4s. 1½d.
Penang	4s. 1½d.	4s. 1½d.	4s. 1½d.
Manila	4s. 4½d.	4s. 5d.	4s. 5½d.

MISCELLANEOUS.

	At Shanghai.	At Hong Kong.
Bills on India	Rs. 300½ to \$10	Rs. 231
" Hong Kong	2½ to 28 dia.	
Bar silver	Tls. 111.95	6 prem. (nominal)
Mexican dollars	Tls. 75.2.75	1½ prem. (nominal)

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Shanghai Dock Company, Tls. 910.
Shanghai Gas Company, Tls. 147½.
Steam Tug and Boat Association, nominal.
French Gas Company, Tls. 73.
Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$365.
North China Insurance Company, Tls. 650.
Yongtai Insurance Association, Tls. 720.
Union Insurance Society, —
China Traders Company (Limited), \$2,000.
China Fire Insurance Company, Tls. 150.
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Tls. 93.
Chinese Imperial Loan, £106.
Footang Dock Company, Tls. 89.
China Coast Steam Navigation Company, Tls. 674.

HONG KONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank 37 per cent. prem.
Hong Kong Gas Company, \$75 per share.
Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, 27 per cent. discount.
China Traders' Insurance Company, \$2,700 per share.
Hotel Shares, \$56 per share.
Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, 7 per cent. dia.
Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$340 per share.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, \$775 per share.
China Fire Insurance Company, \$150 per share.
Chinese Insurance Company, \$240 per share.
Chinese Imperial Loan, £103 (exchange 4s. 1½d.).
Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, Tls. 29 per share.

SINGAPORE SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Tanjong Pagar Dock Shares (\$100 paid), \$131.
New Harbour Dock Company (\$100 paid), par.
Singapore Gas Company (25 paid), par.
Selena Mining Company (\$50 paid), \$10.
Singapore Steamship Company (Limited), par.

* The latest telegrams report the rate for six months' bank bills at Singapore 3s. 11½d., Hong Kong 3s. 11½d., at Shanghai 5s. 4½d.

SHIPPING POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT IN THE TABLES.—August 14, at Pauillac, from Maulmain, Francesca; 15, at London, from Penang, Kangaroo (str.); 16, from Shanghai, Diomed (str.); from Foochow, Penguin (str.); from Manila, Bertha (str.); from Rangoon, Antares; at Falmouth, from Bassein, Coldingham; at Crookhaven, for Liverpool, from Bassein, Jessore; 17, at Liverpool, from Rangoon, Marpesia, Sierra Morena; 15, at Pauillac, from Maulmain, Jupiter; 17, at Liverpool, from Sourabaya, Sing Tai; at Queenstown, from Rangoon, Hero.

DEPARTURES.—August 14, from Ymuiden, for Java, Bestavaer; 15, from Cardiff, for Singapore, Amina; from Liverpool, for Manila, Yrurac Bat (str.); for Hong Kong, Cashmere; from London, for Singapore, Mercur, Red Riding Hood, Star of the South; 10, from Newcastle, for Acheen, Princess Amalia.

SPOKEN.—Charles Dickens, Bassein to Falmouth, May 31; Delta, Yedo to Devonport, July 20, 25 S., 6 W.

CASUALTIES.—Hong Kong, Aug. 8, the Gloucester foundered July 29 all hands saved. Aug. 14, the Adela (Brit. barq.) grounded at Newchwang, and will probably be condemned. Kiel, Aug. 7, a telegram from Yokohama of Aug. 1 states that the Catharina, of Apenrade, Fischer, was totally lost in the typhoon on July 26; mate and three men drowned.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Sagres, passed, August 14, Friesland (str.), from Rotterdam, for Batavia; Rio de Janeiro, sailed, July 8, Christel; 9, Svanen, both for Batavia.—Malta, passed, Aug. 16, Glenartney, from London for China; Oitavos, passed, Aug. 15 (noon), Gordon Castle (str.), Shanghai for London.—Table Bay, cleared, July 21, Herald of the Morning, for Guam.—Cape Town, sailed, July 17, Sosteria, for Guam.—Rotterdam, Aug. 16, the Voorwaerts (str.) at Batavia, June 27, reports passing a wreck dangerous to navigation, in lat. 11 N., long. 63 E.

A TELEGRAM reached London on the 18th inst. announcing that the Eastern and Australian Company's steamer *Normandy* has struck upon an unknown rock on the Australian coast, and has been beached upon No. 2 Island of the Percy Group. The captain hopes to save her.

The Messageries Maritimes steamer *Hooghly*, with the present inward French mail, arrived at Marseilles at 10 P.M. on the 16th inst. She brings 80 passengers and a general cargo, including 163 bales of silk, 14,000 packages of tea, and 585 packages of sundries, for London, which part of her cargo will be forwarded to its destination per Company's steamer *Gange*, due in London on or about the 28th inst. The P. and O. Company's steamer *Teheran*, with the heavy portion of last inward mail, arrived at Southampton on the 18th inst., two days early.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON: MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1877.

THIS MAIL'S NEWS.

The disasters which have befallen China of late seem to be without end. The present mail brings news of the effects of the floods at and near Foochow, which are of a very terrible character. Hundreds of houses, it is said, have been washed away, two thousand persons have, it is computed, lost their lives, and the extent of the damage done cannot at present be estimated. Thousands of poor people have been rendered homeless and destitute by this disastrous inundation, while, to add to the general distress the injury to the growing rice crop has been so serious that it is believed about one-third of it has been lost. This will, of course, have the effect of raising the prices, already sufficiently high, necessarily rendering the struggle to live much keener. On the other hand, the accounts from the north are slightly more reassuring. The poor people were in some districts making efforts to sow their fields, but great damage had been caused over a large area by a hail-storm of unprecedented severity, which took place on May 10 last. The people have shown unfeigned gratitude for the aid which has been extended to them by foreigners. A decree in the *Peking Gazette* has appeared, announcing the capture of Turfan, the last remaining stronghold of the Dungan Mohammedans. Advices from Wenchow report that the suspected lorcha has been unhesitatingly identified by Mr. Main as the *Mandarin*. The absence of any proper papers and the inability of her present owners to account for her coming into their possession constitute strong corroborative evidence. It is justly observed that it is very little to the credit of the Chinese authorities that she should have been allowed to trade regularly to a considerable port like Wenchow, without recognition; notwithstanding that she has been more than once identified by foreigners on the high seas, and was recognised directly she is seen by the first foreigner who was familiar with her in Wenchow.

The general impression in Japan at the date of present mail's departure seems to be that the end of the civil war was approaching; but still the news was conflicting, and unreliable. The circumstances, however, that a junction of the Government field-armies had occurred, and that the officials generally appeared more sanguine, have given rise to the hope that the war may ere long be terminated. It was stated that the rebels were evidently tiring of a contest in which the Government proved too strong for them; that they were surrendering in numbers, and their resources were much impaired by six months' war. At the same time, no precautions were relaxed, and large numbers of troops continued to be despatched to the seat of war. The case which, as noticed in our last, had been brought by the Mitsu Bishi Company against Captain Colomb, R.N., for damages caused to the *Chiri Maru* by H.M.S. *Audacious* dragging down on her, has, after a tedious trial, ended without a verdict, the jury having disagreed. It is stated that an appeal is to be made, which will involve the question of the jurisdiction of the Court at Yokohama in a case against Her Majesty's ships. The new French Minister to Japan dined with the Emperor at Tokio on June 14.

Our advices from the Straits Settlements announce that the remains of the late Sultan Allie of Johore were interred on the 8th July with much ceremony. The Hon. J. Douglas and the Hon. C. J. Irving were present at the funeral, which was attended by over three thousand persons. Considerable discussion was rife with reference to the successor to the deceased Sultan. The Viceroy of Salangore, Tunku Oodin, was on a visit to Singapore. The members of the Tamil congregation of St. George's Church, Penang, have presented a Bible, accompanied by an address, to the Rev. A. Fearon, the retiring Colonial chaplain. No further news had been received at Batavia regarding the progress of the war in Atchin. The official *Gazette* of Manila promulgates a series of new regulations regarding the public sale of tobacco for exportation.

RAILWAY ENTERPRISE IN CHINA.

FROM information which we have received we fear there is no doubt that the Chinese Government have, as reported by telegraph, definitely resolved upon closing the Woosung Railway, and that the hopes of inducing them to rescind this retrogressive resolution are very small. It appears that for some time past the step has been hinted at, but those in China best able to judge hardly imagined that so unfortunate a resolution would be finally arrived at. As far back as June, it was known in Shanghai that the Chinese authorities seriously contemplated transporting the railway to Formosa, but that this idea was abandoned on account of the cost appearing too large. It was afterwards reported as likely that the rails would be taken up and the road absorbed by the adjacent villagers on the termination of the foreign management in October next, in accordance with the agreement published some time back in the Shanghai papers, and this it now appears has been finally decided upon. A variety of reasons seem to have conduced to this action. The mandarins are jealous of the power of foreigners in connection with the line; they cannot work it themselves, and do not like to entrust ordinary people with it, while they are also apprehensive of its falling into the hands and further swelling the importance of the already somewhat overbearing magnates of the China Merchants' Company. It is also stated by them that, as a matter of fact, it does not pay; but this really results from needless restrictions which are placed upon the carriage of goods—restrictions, however, which the officials are "but little" disposed to remove. The mandarins have probably been also influenced by the notion that putting down the railway would have a good effect upon the people generally by showing that the officials are able roughly to upset the most cherished wishes of foreigners. All these ideas have doubtless had their effect in inducing the step which has just been taken, but of the inadvisability of that course there can be no question. The public here, and, indeed, in Europe generally, were beginning to believe that at last China intended to throw off something of its old exclusiveness and conceit, and to endeavour, to some extent, at least, to keep pace with the outer world. These hopes will be rudely dashed to the ground when it is found that the earliest opportunity is seized by them to put down so small an enterprise as a railway twelve miles in length. Nor can the news be received without a feeling of suspicion that this design has been long entertained, and that in keeping open the railway as long as they have, since its purchase, they have merely been playing with foreigners and dangling false hopes before them, probably with the idea of obtaining better terms in the settlement of the negotiations so long going on and not yet terminated. Certainly this retrograde movement will not tend to facilitate coming to a good understanding upon outstanding matters, and it would at least have been prudent to avoid giving this cause of disappointment to those who were beginning to hope for better things until the matters connected with the Convention had been finally disposed of.

One thing has at least been gained by the Woosung Railway, short as its existence has been. It has been shown that no such insuperable difficulties as have always been declared to stand in the way of railways in China exist elsewhere than in the minds of the officials. The Chinese people have eagerly availed themselves of the line as a means of travelling, and but for needless restrictions would doubtless be equally ready to do so for goods traffic. One great advantage which could be gained by the introduction of the iron road into China would be that it would make it possible to collect the transit dues in a regular and recognised way, in the same manner, in fact, as the *octroi* dues are collected in France at the various railway stations. The opposite of this is of course the idea prevalent in the minds of the Chinese officials, who are, doubtless, haunted with fears that the inland revenue must be lost entirely unless they can collect it in the old style at the established barriers. But such of course need not be the case. On the contrary, an amount of regularity and certainty hitherto unattainable could be obtained to the benefit alike of the Government and the trading classes. It is, therefore, much to be regretted that an enterprise which seemed likely to form the precursor of so ad-

vantageous a step as the introduction of railways upon a large scale into China has been abandoned. China has thus practically shown herself to be far behind Japan, where railway enterprise, though it has been slow of development, is now firmly established, and the little gleam of hope which was entertained by her well-wishers that at last she was about to enter upon a career of progress will now pass away, and before anything can be done, the whole matter will have to be reopened and rediscussed, and it is but too well-known what this means in China. There can be no question in the minds of those acquainted with the wants of that country that nothing would tend more to its benefit than the iron road. The chief difficulty, administrative, fiscal, and commercial, which she has to contend with, is a want of centralisation, and nothing would supply this better than the introduction of railways with their usual accompaniment of the telegraph. It is, indeed, the very shortcoming which makes it difficult to introduce railways, which railways would themselves remove, and it is therefore specially discouraging to find that even when applied on the smallest scale and in the way least calculated to interfere with the internal affairs of the country, the railway is rejected as a dangerous innovation. We can only trust that the representatives of foreign Powers in China may yet be able to impress upon the Chinese Government the inadvisability of the step taken, and that at least something may be done to prevent its being what it at present undoubtedly appears to be, the step to every chance for years to come of introducing the iron road. It is stated that the retrograde step which has been taken has been instigated mainly by the Viceroy of Nanking, and it seems somewhat strange that a man of so much enlightenment as he is reported to be should adopt so puerile a course. As a Chinaman observed in speaking of it, a Viceroy might shut up a railway of three-hundred miles; but one only twelve miles long—why a Ti-Paou (a village headman) could hardly do it and save his dignity. We can, however, scarcely believe that it can be the Viceroy himself who has thought of adopting this measure, but presume that it has been done at the instigation of some over-zealous subordinate.

JAPANESE FINANCE.

In another place we give a summary of an exhaustive report upon the finances of Japan, which has been prepared by Mr. MOUNSEY, Secretary of the British Legation at Yedo, and which will be read with much interest at the present time, when the ideas entertained on this subject are generally of a vague character, in consequence of the somewhat defective form in which information with regard to it has been conveyed to the public. It will be seen that the great difficulty with which the Japanese Government have had to contend has been that of finding some means of lightening the land-tax, which, originating in the old feudal times of the Empire, has maintained proportions which are not in accordance with the existing state of finance and commerce. Mr. MOUNSEY points out that the tendency of Japanese financial legislation has been to lighten the burdens on the land, which, besides the land-tax, has to contribute considerable sums for local affairs. It was for this that the capitalisation of the allowances of the Nobles and Samurai—a measure arbitrary, no doubt, but seemingly of absolute necessity—was decreed; and it is also with this view that new taxes have been imposed, and that a desire is expressed for a revision of the Tariff Clause of the Treaties with foreign Powers, and for the imposition of higher duties on the import of articles of luxury at least. It is, however, doubtful whether the Customs receipts will be increased by raising the duties, and it being evident that time must elapse before the manufacturing industry can become a source of much wealth to the country, the land-tax must of necessity continue the chief item of national revenue. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that every means should be adopted by improved roads, &c., to encourage the development of the agricultural resources of the country. Mr. MOUNSEY takes a hopeful view of Japanese finance, and says that if the estimates for the past two years can be taken as correct, the financial position of Japan is not unsatisfactory, considering the progress already made, and should not discourage the Government of the Mikado in

their endeavours to solve the problem which is before them, and which consists in the improvement of their country by the adaptation of all that is beneficial in Western civilisation.

It will be seen from the news which we give this mail from the United States, that the Chinese question there is, as might be expected, assuming a somewhat serious shape. The leading Chinese merchants have petitioned Senator MORTON to introduce a Bill modifying the Burlingame Treaty, and among other things taxing every Chinese immigrant \$100. The Senator has promised to introduce a Bill; but whether the last-named provision will be accepted may be considered problematical. The Chinese, it seems, also intend to claim indemnity for the damage done during the San Francisco disturbances.

SOME of the daily papers contain a curiously jumbled statement to the effect that a special Ambassador from China had arrived in Berlin, and was about to settle some diplomatic questions of importance. The only foundation which there would appear to be for this is that Li, who recently came over with some Chinese cadets, is at Berlin. It is also reported that the "Special Ambassador" is about to proceed to St. Petersburg. Should Li intend to proceed thither, which is possible, he will go entirely on his own account, and his visit will have no official importance.

ACCORDING to the latest advices from Brisbane it appears that the Legislature of Queensland are determined to leave no stone unturned to prevent Chinese immigration. The Goldfields Amendment Act and the Chinese Immigration Act have passed their second reading; though the former is in substance the same measure as that to which the Imperial assent was refused last session.

WITH reference to the letter which has been addressed by the Chairman of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce to the Committee representing that body here, we understand it appears probable that no definite step can be taken in the matter until the Indian Government have given their views.

THE appointments of Mr. MARCUS OCTAVIUS FLOWERS, now Her Majesty's Consul at Nagasaki, to be Consul at Hiogo and Osaka; of Mr. JAMES TROUP, now Vice-Consul at Neegata, to be Consul at Nagasaki; and of Mr. H. S. WILKINSON, to be Vice-Consul at Neegata are gazetted.

VICE-ADMIRAL HILLYAR, C.B., the officer who was recently appointed to the command of the China station, will proceed by the mail leaving Southampton on the 20th proximo, and which is due at Hong Kong on November 8.

THE CUSTOMS REPORTS ON THE CHINA TRADE FOR 1875.

(Continued.)

Mr. Macpherson, in his review of the trade of Tientsin, notes that the value of the net foreign imports has fallen from about ten millions and a-half to about eight millions and a-half, and of this diminution only some Hk. Tls. 700,000 can be attributed to that decreased consumption of foreign opium which is due to the more extended cultivation, and to the greater care bestowed on the preparation of the native drug. The quantity of grey shirtings alone which arrived is less by 300,000 pieces, nor was this change compensated for by a general augmentation in the case of other fabrics. On the contrary, the total of piece goods of various kinds which arrived is characterised by a diminution to the extent of nearly 400,000 pieces. The value of the net native imports has also decreased by about Hk. Tls. 325,000, and that of native exports to foreign countries by over Hk. Tls. 3,400. Speaking exactly, the decline in the local prosperity, as represented by the trade coming under the immediate cognisance of this office, would have been represented by a sum of Hk. Tls. 2,317,173, had not a happy augmentation in the quantity of native exports to Chinese ports rectified such grave signs of retrogression; but even after deducting this amount, the net value of the entire trade of the 1875 season, as compared with that of 1874, is less to the extent of Hk. Tls. 1,768,966, or by more than one-tenth of the total value for the year. Of course, if merchandise only brought to Tientsin to be again promptly sent away is included, a sudden and unexpected increase in the quantity of tea admitted for Siberian

use would go far to enable the statistics to show a more even balance.

Mr. Man, Commissioner at Newchwang, notes an increase in 1875, both in imports and exports. The foreign import trade amounted in value to Hk. Tls. 1,342,144, or an increase as compared with the previous year of Hk. Tls. 387,374. A falling off is however noticed in the Korean trade in woollens and cottons, which is accounted for, at least to some extent, by the internal troubles in that country, and the extreme uncertainty as to the future felt by the two engaged in what may be called her foreign import trade. The following remarks are made by Mr. Man with reference to the deterioration in the quality of English piece goods:—

Lancashire is surely stretching to extreme tension the sole cord in which her present practical monopoly finds strength—the hatred of change that lies embalmed in the Chinese character, and gives force and meaning to the conservatism met with in all the references of daily life. No din of machinery resounds through the streets of Shanghai and Canton, and the chance of forcing honesty in work by ceasing largely to import is in the future. Yet the native merchant has a tolerably adequate remedy at hand. By no law other than the “old custom” of his class is he obliged to deal in certain brands or with particular manufacturers. Not to mention competition just showing from India, a young and resolute rival is ready to take advantage of persistence in wrong-doing on the part of the long-established producers. “American industry labours under the disadvantage of dear and scarce labour, of navigation laws which have crippled the carrying trade, and of prohibitive tariffs.” But, in spite of all this, goods from the United States are already placed upon our market in considerable quantities, and there compare most advantageously with the adulterated short-packed rubbish that is ruining the reputation of British mills.

The value of the foreign trade of Chefoo shows a falling off as compared with 1874; but all headings, except that of Opium, show an increase.

Mr. Novion, Commissioner at Hankow, states that the trade of the year under review does not offer anything remarkable when compared with previous years; still it is not unsatisfactory, as it appears to have equalled, and even exceeded, the trade of 1873, and has confirmed the opinion expressed in the preceding report, that the deficit in 1874 was only accidental. The principal feature of the trade of the year is a decrease of some importance in the foreign importations, and a steady increase in all the branches of the native trade, import and export. The deficit of 1874 is to be accounted for principally in the native imports from Shanghai, which can be explained by the anxiety caused at the time by the Japanese difficulty, the withdrawal from the river line of the Chinese steamers, and the activity of military preparations, extending from Shanghai all along the Yangtze. The net value of the foreign imports of the year amounted to Hk. Tls. 8,396,500, while the value of foreign goods sent to the interior under transit-pass is represented by the sum of Hk. Tls. 1,954,822, leaving a balance of Hk. Tls. 6,441,678, and as it is beyond all probability that such an amount of foreign goods could have been consumed in Hankow and Wuchang, it may be concluded with certainty that most of the imports are sent from this port to the interior by the natives, and without being covered by transit passes. In *résumé*, and from a general point of view, the tendency of the trade of Hankow for several years has been towards a decrease in the foreign importations, and a large increase in the coast trade, import and export, and an increase in the exportation of teas to the Continent of Europe (Russia). Cotton piece goods show a decrease of 150,276 pieces as compared with the importation of 1874, and of 300,914 as compared with 1873. This moderate, but continual decrease for several years in that important branch of the trade is the characteristic feature of the trade of Hankow. To assign a positive cause for that tendency would be presumption, as it depends upon many different reasons. A single fact may, perhaps, throw some light on the matter, which is, the feeble proportion of foreign imports sent to the interior under transit-pass from a port which by its geographical situation ought to be the first port for distribution to the interior, while it is still inferior to Chinkiang, where the proportion was 79·40 per cent. in 1874, and only 28·80 per cent. at Hankow. This inferiority Mr. Novion thinks is certainly due to the difficulty the goods meet with at the barriers in the interior, and to the stoppage, some two years ago, of an important lot of goods destined for Ch'ungking, which affair is still pending, also to the importance of the tea trade, which absorbs the greater part of the activity and resources of the foreign merchants of this port. The foreign importations are, to a large extent, the property of native merchants who do not use transit passes, so that the distribution to the interior under them is limited to the provinces of Hupeh and Hunan, while the province of Szechuen alone will afford an immense field for the activity of importers, if it can be made more accessible for goods under transit-pass. It may also be inferred from the increase in raw cotton that the native manufactures are increasing, but that increase is not large enough, or the decrease in imports sufficient, to justify such presumption; rather may it be said that, on the whole, this branch of the trade is in a stagnant state. Still the increase in native manufactures is worthy the attention of all merchants concerned.

Mr. Kopsch, in his report on Kiukiang, notices that the

statistics show a falling off, as compared with the previous year. Both piece goods and opium show a decline, and in the exports the falling off is in green tea. Among new articles being taken into consumption by the Chinese, he notices foreign dyes and kerosine, which are both becoming established articles of trade. He advocates a reduction of the duty on tea dust, which is the same as that on tea. With regard to transit passes, it appears that about 20 per cent. of the goods imported at Kiukiang are sent into the interior under transit-pass.

In his report upon the trade of Chinkiang, Mr. Woodruff gives some interesting particulars with reference to the levy of inland taxes upon Chinese goods, and points out the detrimental effect they have on trade. At the same time, he considers that the alteration of the present system must be a matter of great difficulty. In speaking of the so-called “smuggling of opium” (mentioned in one of the Consular reports), he says that though foreigners' names were used the smuggling was unquestionably without their knowledge. The general trade at Chinkiang does not present any special features for notice. The imports showed a slight increase in quantity but a falling off in value.

The report on the trade of Shanghai by Mr. George B. Glover, Commissioner there, is excellently drawn up, and is free from any of the needless verbiage which finds its way into some of the other reports. The value of the trade of this port for 1875 was Hk. Tls. 4,100,000 in excess of that of the previous year, the total value having amounted to Hk. Tls. 109,300,000. Of this amount the gross value of foreign goods imported was Hk. Tls. 46,600,000, against Hk. Tls. 47,400,000 during the year 1874. The value of the import of opium was nearly 20 per cent. less than that of the year before, and the same depreciation is to be noticed in the value of grey and white shirtings; on the other hand, the value of T-cloths, drills and jeans increased fully 50 per cent. Woollens have held their own, their total value being nearly Hk. Tls. 300,000 in excess of that of the previous year. The tonnage of the port continues to increase, the total amount in 1875 being 250,000 tons more than that of any previous year. Of 3,854 vessels entered and cleared in 1875, steamers numbered 2,778 and sailing vessels 1,076. The increase in the number of steamers entered and cleared in 1875 over that of the previous year is 269, while during the same period the increase in the number of sailing vessels is but 87. The value of goods conveyed to and from the interior under transit passes in 1875 was nearly 50 per cent. greater than that of 1874. Regarding opium, Mr. Glover observes that, although the import of opium in 1875 into Shanghai was 9,099 chests less than in 1874, the actual import into China has not materially decreased. The falling off in the importation into Shanghai may be attributed to two causes; first, an increased quantity of the importation from India is purchased by natives at Hong Kong, and is forwarded by them to the Kiangsi and Szechuen provinces *via* the Canton and Swatow rivers, thus saving the lekin and other taxes; the second cause may be ascribed to the yearly increasing cultivation of native opium, especially in the Shang-tung province, which finds its way to Chinkiang *via* the Grand Canal, and from thence to Soochow and Shanghai overland, thereby avoiding both export and coast trade duty, to which it would be liable if conveyed by foreign vessels. The amount of Szechuen opium which passed the Shanghai Customs-office reached last year 891 piculs, against 75 piculs the year before. This increase is owing to a more careful and perfect supervision of the vessels carrying it, making it to the interest of the shippers to declare it at the Custom-house.

The foreign trade of Ningpo, according to the report of Mr. E. Bredon, officiating commissioner, shows a decline for 1875. The total net value of the whole trade for 1875 amounted to Hk. Tls. 12,846,315, or Hk. Tls. 1,699,995 less than the preceding year. This decrease however really exists to any great extent in but one of the elements which go to form the whole trade. The net foreign imports of 1875, value Hk. Tls. 6,180,252, not including re-exports, value Hk. Tls. 139,194, were more valuable than those of 1874 by Hk. Tls. 181,326; the native imports, value Hk. Tls. 1,682,131 (after deducting Hk. Tls. 20,822, the value of what was re-exported), were worth Hk. Tls. 148,592 more than the same class in 1874. It is among the exports that the loss in value of the trade must be sought. During 1874 the exports were worth Hk. Tls. 7,013,845, nearly three-fourths of a million less than in 1873; during 1875 they were worth Hk. Tls. 4,983,932, or Hk. Tls. 2,029,913 less than in 1874. It will be seen below that the one item of tea accounts for most of this deficit. Comparing the values of the net import and export trade, it is found that the former exceeds the latter by Hk. Tls. 2,878,451. In fact, ever since 1872 the proportion which the import trade bears to the export has been increasing in favour of the former, but the ratio of increase has never been so great as during the year under review.

A summary of the reports on Foochow, Formosa, and the southern ports will appear in a future issue.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.—A Return just laid before Parliament shows that the total National Debt, funded, including stock held on account of unclaimed dividends, unfunded, and (capital value of) terminable annuities, has decreased from £339,519,326 on the 1st April, 1857, to £276,270,544 at the same period in 1877.

THE FINANCES OF JAPAN.

A valuable report on Japanese finance, by Mr. Mounsey, Secretary to the British Legation at Yedo, has been published in Blue-Book form, having been forwarded to the Home Government by Sir Harry Parkes. Mr. Mounsey describes in detail the Japanese system of taxation, the particulars of expenditure, the amount of the public debt, and the general position and prospects of national income. The land-tax constitutes no less than nine-tenths of the revenue of the Empire, and the importance of the Government undertaking the administration of the Daimios' territories and compensating them for doing so may be judged from this fact. The Government to accomplish its task had to convert payments in kind into payments in money, and at the same time to make a new assessment of the land. With a view to attaining the first of these objects, the Government published a proclamation in 1872, permitting the payment of the land-tax in money; but as few landholders availed themselves of this permission, a further Decree was issued in July, 1875, rendering payments in money compulsory in each district as soon as the lands within its limits should be assessed according to the new system, and ordering the assessment to be commenced at once. In this new assessment the old method of calculating the land-tax according to the amount of produce is abandoned, and the basis adopted is the saleable value of the land. The tax on land is in future to be kept entirely distinct from that on buildings; and in computing the value of each property, the assessors are to take into consideration the capabilities of the soil, the expense of cultivation, the situation, the means of irrigation, the proximity to or distance from markets, &c., &c. A valuation is then to be struck, and on this valuation a tax of three per cent. is to be levied. This latter amount is not to be final; for the decree goes on to state that as soon as the taxes on tea, tobacco, and other articles of produce to be presently imposed yield a revenue of 2,000,000 yen, a further and gradual reduction will be made in the tax on the newly assessed lands until it becomes 1 per cent. of their value.

The new assessment was commenced in 1875, and at the close of 1876, two-thirds of the cultivated land of the country had been brought under it, whilst hopes were entertained of completing the survey of the remaining third in a few months. In the meantime, many of the farmers opposed the introduction of payments in money. Repugnance to change, so common in the agricultural classes of all countries—an idea that the new form of payment would prove an additional burden; the difficulty in a country where roads scarcely exist of carrying their rice to market at a given date when the tax became due, and the still greater difficulty, in the absence of banking establishments, of obtaining advances on it. Finally, the fear of depreciating the price of rice by throwing more on the market than was necessary for consumption. One or all of these reasons may have actuated them, and the result was that in November and December, 1876, agrarian riots broke out in several provinces of the Empire. In December they assumed a serious form, and it seems probable that these outbreaks hastened the further reduction of the tax contemplated and announced in the Decree of 1875.

A comparison of the Estimates for 1875-76 and 1876-77 shows that the total decrease of revenue in the current year will be £1,118,525, and the total decrease of expenditure £1,100,932. The chief items of the former are:—(1) The Land-tax, the decrease in which is attributed to the introduction of the new system of levying it at the rate of 3 per cent. on the value of the land, as already described. The effect of the further reduction to 2½ per cent. will not be apparent until the estimates of the ensuing financial year are published, as the greater part of the tax for the current year had been collected previous to the promulgation of the Mikado's Decree of the 4th of January last. It is calculated that this measure will further reduce the land-tax by about £1,600,000. (2) Tax on allowances and pensions, where the decrease is due to the capitalisation of the allowances, &c. (3) Revenue of the Hokkaidō; and (4) Miscellaneous Receipts. The sale of Government property and the refund of loans. The taxes which show considerable increase during the current year are those in fermented liquors and tobacco, and there is an increase in the revenue from the post-office, railways, telegraphs, mines, mint, and customs.

Referring to the National Debt, Mr. Mounsey points out that the actual amount of debt incurred by the Government of the Restoration appears to be under £9,250,000 sterling; and considering the magnitude and extent of the changes which have taken place in this country during their tenure of office—viz., the reform of the entire administration, the creation of an army and navy, the adoption of a uniform system of taxation, involving the abolition of no less than 2,000 petty dues and imposts, the introduction of railways and telegraphs, the establishment of lighthouses and post-offices, the issue of a new currency, the extension of public instruction, and the initiation of a new code of civil and criminal jurisprudence—this sum does not seem disproportionate to the results obtained. The sum total of the public debt on the 1st July, 1875, was £28,457,916, and according to the latest statement, that which accompanied the estimates of the current year, and gives an account of the debt on the 1st July, 1876, this sum has been increased during the year to £29,784,944. The items of

debt in which there is an increase are the internal debt, bearing 8 per cent. interest, and the foreign debt, bearing 9 per cent. interest. As regards the former, the Vice-Minister of Finance states that it is entirely due to the settlement of claims arising out of the capitalisation of allowances and pensions, voluntarily surrendered in accordance with the terms of the scheme of 1873. As to the foreign debt, he states that the increase (which is not absolute, but only apparent, as diminishing the amount of this debt redeemed during the year in question) is owing to the insertion in this statement of a small number of bonds bought in by the Government since the debt was incurred, and excluded from previous statements of the debt.

Naval and Military.

Admiral Charles Wise (Retired List) died on the 8th inst., in his 68th year. This officer entered the Navy in 1822; passed his examination in 1829; obtained his first commission in 1833; served, from 1835, until paid off at the commencement of 1840, part of the time as senior lieutenant, in the *Rodney*, Captain Hyde Parker, on the Mediterranean station; and in 1841 was appointed, in the capacity last mentioned, to the *Cornwallis*, fitting for the flag of Sir W. Parker, whom he accompanied to the coast of China. He commanded a small division of boats subsequently at the destruction of thirty fire-boats at Chusan, and was present at the capture of Woosung, Shanghai, and Chin-Kiang. For his conduct he was promoted to the rank of commander in 1842, and was reappointed to the *Cornwallis*. In 1844 he returned to England; he was again, in 1845, nominated second captain to Sir W. Parker in the *Hibernia*, in the Mediterranean; and on the death at Malta of Captain Nicholas Lockyer, of the *Albion*, he was promoted, in 1847, into the vacancy thereby occasioned, into the *Inconstant* at Lisbon, and was afterwards flag-captain to Sir W. Parker, in his second commission in the Mediterranean. Again, in 1854, he was flag-captain to Sir W. Parker, who was then appointed commander-in-chief at Devonport. Subsequently he served as commodore on the West Coast of Africa in the *Vesuvius*, and at the end of that commission he was made captain superintendent of Sheerness Dockyard. He was not employed after attaining flag-rank, to which he was promoted in April 1865.

By the death of the Junior Admiral of the Fleet, Sir H. J. Codrington, K.C.B., one of the most distinguished and popular Admirals in the Navy, the Hon. Sir Henry Keppel, G.C.B., formerly commander-in-chief on the China Station—attains the highest rank in his profession, viz., that of Admiral of the Fleet; Vice-Admiral Ryder—now Commander-in-Chief in China is promoted to the Admirals' List; Rear-Admiral Sir Leopold M'Clellan to the Vice-Admirals' List; and Captain John Bythess, C.B., V.C., to the Rear Admirals' List.

The *Navarino*, hired screw steamer, arrived in the Thames, at Gravesend, on the 14th inst., from Ceylon, having on board a detachment of the 57th Regiment, sent home for transfer to the first-class army reserve. The *Navarino* embarked her troops and sailed from Colombo on the 7th ult., the passage to Gravesend, via the Suez Canal, occupying thirty-eight days.

The Distinguished Service Reward, vacant by the death of Major-General R.N. Tinley, has been given to Colonel R. H. Currie, 39th Regiment. Colonel Currie served with the 39th Regiment in India and in the Crimea.

On the 11th inst. the Prince of Wales went on board the *Thunderer*, which was lying in Cowes Roads, when some torpedo practice was gone through, of course with blank charges. Each torpedo was charged with about 160lb. of gunpowder, and when the discharge took place a mountain of water was projected high into the air, preceded by a rumbling noise like distant thunder; and so severe was the explosion that hardly a vessel lying in any part of the roadstead but felt a shaking or lifting up, as if from the effect of an earthquake, showing the terrible effects of this newly-invented and deadly instrument of warfare. The Prince expressed his satisfaction at the skill with which the operations had been conducted, which were quite a novelty to those persons who had witnessed them. Later in the day the Queen visited the ship. The *Thunderer* got up steam and proceeded up the Solent to Osborne Bay. Her Majesty was rowed to the *Thunderer*, where she was received by Captain Wilson, Commander Lord Charles Boreford, and the other officers of the ship. Her Majesty was joined by the Prince of Wales, and was conducted over the whole of this vast ship, which she minutely examined, and expressed her great satisfaction with all the arrangements. After spending about an hour on board Her Majesty returned to Osborne.

From a statement laid before Parliament, showing the expenditure actually recorded to the end of March this year of money taken from the Consolidated Fund for the expenses of fortifications, it appears that, including payments for land, clearance works, professional charges, and for the defence works themselves, the following amounts have been spent at some of our principal ports:—Portsmouth, £3,069,900; Plymouth, £1,474,044; Pembroke, £305,766; Portland, £455,694; Gravesend, £320,515; Chatham, £273,988; Sheerness, £360,208; Dover, £293,844; Cork, £191,341. The sum of £392,510 6s. 5d. was spent in providing and fixing iron shields, and with incidental expenses, works, experiments, surveys, and legal and incidental charges, the total amount expended has been £7,297,321 9s. 7d.

The series of huge forts for the defence of Portsmouth, which have been years in building, have at last been completed, and are now receiving their armament. The forts are mounted with 38-ton 12½-inch muzzle-loading guns, which are loaded and worked entirely by the hydraulic system of Mr. G. W. Rendel, and may be fired at the rate of a round in a minute and a half. A series of trials have been going on under the superintendence of Colonel C. W. Younghusband,

the Superintendent of the Royal Gun Factory and President of the Heavy Gun Committee. The order from headquarters for the non-admission of strangers to the forts under any circumstances is rigorously enforced; and all information is withheld by the authorities.

THE CHINESE ENVOYS.

During last week the Envoys have visited Newgate Gaol, and have inscribed their names in the visitors' book. H. E. Liu has not yet left for Berlin. The Envoys, we are informed, intend shortly to make a tour of the manufacturing districts.

The Chinese Envoys, accompanied by a number of officials of the Chinese Embassy, paid a visit to Chatham on the 17th inst., where they made an inspection of the School of Military Engineering. The visitors were received by Colonel Sir J. Stokes, K.C.B., by whom they were conducted over the various schools at the Royal Engineer Institute. They afterwards witnessed a field-day of the troops on the Great Lines, under the direction of Major-Gen. G. Erskine. After partaking of luncheon at the officers' mess of the Royal Engineers, the visitors in the afternoon proceeded to the Royal Engineer encampment at Woudham, on the Medway, where they witnessed some experiments in pontooning under the direction of Major Magnay.

THE CHINESE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Senator Morton, at San Francisco, has been visited by a deputation of leading Chinese merchants. Referring to the labour troubles there, they said that a strong feeling existed against them; that their property had been destroyed, their persons maltreated, and their treaty rights disregarded; that the Government fail to give them protection; and that, having borne this for many years without the prospect of relief, they desired the adoption of measures to afford them redress. They requested Senator Morton to introduce a Bill into Congress providing for the modification of the Burlingame Treaty by taxing every Chinese immigrant \$100, the proceeds to go to pay the passage back to China of the Chinese desiring to return. The Senator promised to introduce a Bill. The Chinese intend to make a claim on the Government for 100,000 dollars of indemnity for damage done during the recent San Francisco disturbances, the claim to be presented through the British Legation at Washington, China being unrepresented there, and the injured Chinese having immigrated from Hong Kong.

CHINA AND KASHGAR.

Letters from Kashgar, received in Turkestan, fully confirm the reports of Yakub Beg's sudden demise. The famous Emir died at Koria, after an illness of thirteen days. His remains were brought to Kashgar, and buried on the 31st of May in the cemetery of Appak Chodsha. Chakim-Chantjura, a descendant of Buzruk Chodsha, dethroned by Yakub Beg, was designated by the latter, to the detriment of his own children, as his successor; but, after consulting leading civil and military authorities, renounced his right in favour of Beg Kuli Beg, the late Emir's eldest son, who had remained in the capital as regent when his father took the field against the Chinese between Turfan and Karajar. Further intelligence from Russian merchants trading in those parts of Central Asia states that the Chinese after crossing the Karajar-Darja have laid siege to the town of Karajar. This news is corroborated by a telegram from Colonel Prshewalski, the celebrated traveller, dated Fuldus, June 6, announcing the advance of the Chinese after conquest of Toksun and Turfan, on Karajar, evacuated by the citizens. Yakub Beg's sway, adds Colonel Prshewalski, still unaware of the Emir's death, is soon to fall. At the request of the new ruler of Kashgar, the Russian Government have prohibited the export of provisions to Chinese provinces occupied by troops operating against Kuli Beg.

The Russian Government has received despatches from Colonel Prievalsky announcing the arrival of the Kashgarian exploration party at Kouldja. The eminent geographer at the head of the expedition states that between Lob Nor and Kouldja he has made several discoveries of interest to zoologists, and has added to his collection of Central Asian animals three wild camels, which the Cossacks attached to his party succeeded in capturing on the deserts between Kashgaria and China.

THE EUROPEAN SILK CROP.

The French Ministry of Agriculture publishes some very complete information as to the prospects of this year's silk crop both in France and abroad, to which the crisis in the trade at Lyons lends special interest. The quantity of silkworm eggs and seed raised in France was about the same as in 1876, being above the figures for that year in the departments of the Gard, the Vaucluse, the Herault, and the Bouches-du-Rhône, and below them in the Drome, the Isere, and the Ardèche, but the crop of cocoons was much larger, being estimated at 6,783 tons, as against 2,296 in 1876, 10,070 in 1875, and 11,071 in 1874. The departments which have produced the most this year are the Gard (3,264 tons), the Ardèche (1,961 tons), the Drome (1,917 tons), and the Vaucluse (1,028 tons); next to which come the Isere, the Bouches-du-Rhône, and the Var with about 400 tons each. Out of the total crop of cocoons, 5,693 tons are yellow and 1,090 green; and while the former are reported good, the quality of the latter will, it is apprehended, be found very inferior. The estimated yield from these cocoons will be 475 tons of raw yellow silk and 70 tons of green ditto, and the average price has been £5 for the yellow and £3½ for the green cocoons. In Italy the crop has yielded 22,450 tons, against 14,537 in 1876, 39,410 in 1875, and 42,310 in 1874; and here the green silkworm predominates, being six-sevenths of the total quantity. The yellow cocoons are reported good, but the others are bad, and the crop will not yield above 1,500 tons of silk. The Spanish crop has yielded 920 tons, against 1,210 tons in 1876, 1,605 in 1875, and 1,848 in 1874. In the Levant, Broussa has given 800 tons of cocoons,

more than half of which, obtained from the green silkworm of Japan, will turn out well. Comparing the crops of all the countries mentioned above, it will be apparent that they supplied 2,316 tons in 1877, 1,456 in 1876, and 3,739 in 1875, in other words, that the crops of the two former years scarcely exceed that of 1875.

Among the additions to the Zoological Society's menagerie during the month of July was a long-billed crane, obtained from Shantung, and transmitted to the Society by Mr. Theodore Hance, of Chinkiang.

CARGOES OF TEA AFLOAT.

Date.	Ship.	From.	Cargo lbs.
June 4 ...	J. R. Worcester	... Hankow	... 1,162,000
" 4 ...	Cutty Sark	... Hankow	... 1,342,000
" 9 ...	Ajax (s.)	... Shanghai, &c.	... 2,000,000
" 14 ...	Menzelsh (s.)	... Shanghai	... 1,500,000
" 20 ...	Windhover	... Hankow	... 1,250,000
" 26 ...	Glengyle (s.)	... Shanghai	... 2,000,000
" 28 ...	Gordon Castle (s.)	... Hankow	... 2,000,000
July 5 ...	Galley of Lorne (s.)	... Shanghai	... 2,500,000
" 10 ...	Thermopylae	... Shanghai	... 1,250,000
" 15 ...	Viking (s.)	... Foochow	... 2,000,000
" 31 ...	Glenfalloch (s.)	... Shanghai	... 2,000,000
" 31 ...	Macgregor (s.)	... Shanghai, &c.	... 2,000,000
" 31 ...	Fitzroy (s.)	... Shanghai	... 1,500,000
" 31 ...	Scindia (s.)	... Foochow	... 1,500,000
Total ...	...	...	... 24,004,000

EXPORTS FROM SINGAPORE TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Total to July 14, 1877. Piculs.	Total to July 14, 1876. Piculs.
Tin ...	14,018	22,737
Gambier ...	219,330	171,193
Cutch ...	1,238	1,148
Pearl Sago ...	36,513	35,710
Sago Flour ...	86,844	100,733
Tapioca ...	26,857	22,548
Black Pepper ...	63,347	74,344
White Pepper ...	23,597	18,261
Coffee ...	3,956	7,350
Gutta Percha ...	13,490	9,231
Gum Benjamin ...	1,518	1,317
Gum Copal ...	4,089	1,530
Gamboge ...	166	151
Rattans ...	33,351	32,201
Buffalo Hides ...	23,935	13,283
Buffalo Horns ...	3,702	2,795
Cow Hides ...	617	1,651

GERMANY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, AUG. 14.

The Great Northern Telegraph Company at Copenhagen, whose lines, as you will remember, lead via Russia and Siberia to China, recently has published its statement for the first six months of the current year. The income for the period ending June 31 amounted to £2,875,168, against £2,896,912 during the same period of 1876, and £2,348,690 during the corresponding time in 1875. The income for the month of July has amounted to £479,683. As the expenses of the company of late have been considerably reduced, the present result may be considered a favourable one, and the shareholders can expect a very satisfactory dividend.

The University of Tuebingen (Wurtemberg) celebrated her 400th anniversary last week, and a great many of learned men have come as deputies from the other German and foreign universities to deliver their congratulations. King William and Queen Olga have also been present at Tuebingen.

I wrote to you some months ago about an exhibition of German coal to take place at Hamburg, and I can now report that this show will take place in the latter part of September. All Westphalian pits are partaking in this exhibition, and will do their utmost to rival in future with English fuel.

The Colorado beetle keeps all minds in agitation. Two days ago it was officially published that the fearful insect had again been discovered, and this time, too, in the very heart of Germany—at Sihilda, in the kingdom of Saxony. At the same time the greatest vigilance was recommended to the Governments of all German districts to prevent the spreading-out of the new plague. Great ease of mind, though, in this regard, has taken place, in consequence of the publication of an American correspondence by one of the German leading papers. The said correspondence—from the pen of an American landlord—stated that in the United States the insect is easily and totally destroyed by a paint (the so-called Parisian green), which, in the form of a powder, is being mixed with chalk, and thus, by a very simple manner, is strewn on the attacked lands. The beetle, after this process, disappears totally; and the correspondent added that, in America, the Colorado beetle was far less feared than the German potato-disease.

As you will remember, I wrote some time ago about the uniform discontentment which prevailed all through Northern Europe about the new English Merchant Shipping Act of 1876. Upon the reclamations made by the Imperial Government in England an answer has been given that inconveniences for foreigners had never been induced by the said Act, and that such also in future never would be the case. This answer appears not to have satisfied the German Government, and the Commission for Seafaring Matters (Commission fuer Seesachen) has been convoked upon September 20, to consult the necessary steps to be taken by the German Government to protect German

shipping against the bad consequences of the said Shipping Act. As the so-called Plimsoll fever is fast fading away, at least here in Germany, the English Government, after the opinion of experienced men, would do very well to order a revision of the disagreeable and over-hasty law, which already has severely wounded the Baltic trade as well for English as for foreign ships, without even the least benefit to those for whose protection it was destined.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

The aspects of a speedy finish of the Eastern war having disappeared by the return of the Russians to the Balkans our Produce Markets had to suffer a heavy pressure during the past week, and transactions are of no importance. The Money Market remained very abundant.

COFFEE.—Transactions have only been made for consumption, but were extensive enough to maintain former values; the demand is a pretty lively one. Quotations for Java quality, m.1.05 to 1.50 per lb.

SUGAR.—First-hand parcels did not change owners. Quotations:—Mauila brown, clayed, m.28½ to 30; do. unclayed, m.22½ to 24; Mauritius, brown, m.23 to 30; do. yellow, m.31½ to 34; Batavia, white, m.34 to 35; do. yellow and grey, m.31 to 33; do. brown, m.22½ to 29½; Siam, Benares, and China, white, m.31½ to 34½; Zanzibar, brown and yellow, m.24 to 35; China, brown and yellow, m.22 to 32 per 50 kilo.

RICE.—Of raw quality 10,600 bags are arrived from Bassein per Oreb, and are sold to a mill.

TEA.—Values are maintained, but transactions of no importance.

COTTON.—Quotations are in most cases reduced, but dealers are not very much inclined to buy. Besides a few parcels of American provenance 20 bales Rangoon have been taken at m.6.45½ per lb.

SPICES.—Nutmegs are quiet, prime quality m.5.50 to 6. Mace, m.4.50 to 4.70 per kilo. Ginger, Bengal is dull at m.26 to 26½; Cochin quiet, m.63 to 86. Cloves in good demand, quotation of Zanzibar m.135 to 136; Amboina m.160 to 163. Pepper is unchanged, Singapore m.38 to 38½; Penang m.35 to 36; White m.66 to 80.

EXCHANGE.—London, three months, money, m.20.32; account, m.20.38 per £.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

The better tendency of the past week has maintained itself during the last seven nights; but a visible foundation cannot be given for it. Berlin Bourse was the leader in the movement à la hausse, and has been followed by our place very willingly after a long period of flatness, although nobody here believes in a long duration of the better prospects, and thinks it very probable that news concerning a new fighting on the seat of war will immediately be followed by a retrograde movement.

	Money.	Account.
Imperial Loan	96	96½
Hamburg Railway Loan of 1868	—	102
Hamburg Loan of 1870	105½	105½
Do. do. 1875	—	96
Hamburg Premium Loan of 1845... ..	—	—
Hamburg Premium Loan of 1866... ..	116½	—
Berlin-Hamburg Railway	—	172
Calm Minden Railway	95	95½
Norddeutsche Bank... ..	133	133½
Vereinsbank	120½	—
International Bank	78	—
Commerce and Discount Bank	—	100½
Do. do. 2nd issue (40 p.c.)	99½	99½
Hamburg American Packet Company	54½	54½
Deutsche Dampfschiffs Rheiderlei	—	46
German Transatlantic Company	12½	13

Monetary and Commercial.

The following are the latest quotations of Banking and other Companies connected with the Far East:—Agra Bank, 10½ to 11½; Chartered Bank of India, 21 to 22; Chartered Mercantile Bank, 27 to 29; Comptoir D'Escompte, f.665; Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 34 to 35; Oriental Bank, 44 to 45; P. and O. Company, 38 to 40; Messageries Maritimes, f.610; Suez Canal, f.695; Japan Loan 9 per cent, 108 to 110; ditto, 7 per cent, 100 to 102; China Loan, 104 to 106.

Although there has not been any change in prices, the Tea market has maintained the better tone which we indicated last week. The few arrivals which have taken place have not caused much business, chiefly on account of the commendable firmness of holders in view of the decidedly favourable export statistics to which we have already directed attention and which are improved by latest telegraphic advices from China. It is to be hoped that buyers in China will not be induced by the present more favourable advices to overlook that the improved tone is only for Teas above 1s. 2d., a grade which cannot exist in China when these advices reach there, when there cannot be any parcels of Teas on the market worth buying at even 1s. The prices realised for common "first crop" Teas, say 9d. to 10d., form a convincing proof that similar rates can scarcely be anticipated for "third crops."

There has been a little more activity—or, to speak more accurately, a little less inactivity—in the Silk market; but it is still in a very discouraging condition. Holders have shown a disposition to meet the buyers by a slight concession in prices, and this has caused some moderate sales; but the tone has been of a dragging and unsatisfactory nature. Some valuable statistics are published by the French Ministry of Agriculture with reference

to the silk crops on the Continent. They are reproduced in detail elsewhere, and show that the various European silk-producing countries supplied 2,316 tons in 1877, 1,466 in 1876, and 3,736 in 1875.

In the Produce Markets lack of confidence and an absence of speculative inquiry have continued to be the prevailing characteristics, accompanied, as regards several articles, by a fall in value. Coffee sustained a further fall, but is improving at the close. Sugar has remained extremely quiet and business in East India kinds has been suspended. The speculative demand for Rice has continued, and floating cargoes have been sold at a further advance in value. Cutch and Isinglass also show some improvement. Gambier, China Galls, Manila Hemp, Japan Wax, Pepper, Spices, and Tin have declined.

The report of the Mediterranean Extension Telegraph Company recommends the payment of the half-yearly dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. on the preference stock, less income-tax, and a dividend at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum on the ordinary share capital, adding £491 to the reserve fund, which will then stand at £10,408. The meeting was called for the 15th inst., but no business could be transacted, there not being a quorum of shares represented.

The report of the Great Northern Telegraph Company to the 31st June has been issued, and is summarised elsewhere by our Hamburg correspondent.

Notice is given that the Bonds of the Chinese Imperial Eight per Cent. Loan of 1874, drawn for redemption at par, and the Coupons, due 19th inst., will be paid on and after that date, at the office of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Lombard-street.

The London manager of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation has received a telegram from the head office at Hong Kong announcing a dividend of £1 per share, free of income-tax, and \$150,000 added to the Reserve Fund for the half-year ended the 30th of June last. The Reserve Fund now stands at \$650,000. The dividend will be payable to the London shareholders on the 25th inst.

A final dividend of 6d. in the pound has been declared by the Northern Assam Tea Company, payable on the 15th inst.

The failure of the old established firm of Messrs. Eccles Shorrocks Brothers and Co., spinners and manufacturers, Over Darwen, is announced. The liabilities are stated to be £105,000, which will be very widely distributed amongst agents, bankers, and shippers. This firm has four mills, including 2,000 looms, chiefly occupied in making grey shirtings, besides which they have been large consignees of goods to the East.

At the Bank of England on the 15th inst. tenders for £265,000 in bills and telegrams on India were received. The amounts allotted were:—To Calcutta, £165,000, at an average rate of 1s. 8.786d.; and to Bombay, £100,000, at an average rate of 1s. 8.73d. Tenders on Calcutta for bills at 1s. 8.3d. will receive about 10 per cent., everything above in full; on Bombay for bills only at that price about 33 per cent. No telegraphic transfers were either applied for or allotted, and the India Council have obtained about ½ per cent. less for their bills than they did last week, the fall being equal this time to the advance which was obtained on the last occasion.

Bar silver has slightly receded in value and 54½d. per oz. may now be quoted as the rate. The market for Mexican dollars is by no means firm, and it is doubtful whether supplies will fetch the last price of 53½d. per oz.

BULLION QUOTATIONS.

Bar Gold	77s. 9½d.	per oz.
United States Gold Coin	76s. 5d.	per oz.
German Gold Coin	76s. 3½d.	per oz.
Bar Silver, Fine	4s. 6½d.	per oz. std.
Bar Silver contg. 5 grs. Gold	4s. 6½d.	do.
Mexican Dollars	4s. 5½d.	per oz.

DOCUMENTARY AND PRIVATE BILLS.

	60 d/s.	90 d/s.	Demanded.
Coleombo ... 1/8½ to 1/8 9-16 ... 1/8½ to 1/8 11-16...	1/8½	1/8½	1/8½
Singapore ... 3/9½ to 3/9½ ... 3/9½ to 3/9½ ...	3/9½	3/9½	3/9½ to 3/10
Hong Kong ... 3/9½ to 3/9½ ... 3/9½ to 3/9½ ...	3/9½	3/9½	3/9½ to 3/10
Shanghai ... 5/2 to 5/9½ ... 5/2½ to 5/2½ ...	5/2½	5/2½	5/2½ to 5/3

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.

Messrs. Arthur Capel and Co.'s Circular says:—Although our market has not been active, there has been a fair amount of business done to meet the large deliveries in progress. Prices for black-leaf Congous show no alteration, but good medium red-leaf kinds have sold rather lower. Public sales have been on a small scale, which has tended to give more confidence to buyers, whilst importers have been firm on the more favourable accounts of exports from China.—Congous.—Red-leaf kinds: Siftings remain firm; common to good common show no change, but they are dull of sale. Fair to good kinds of Saryene have been in request, but the plain Kaisow kinds have been difficult to move. The sales of good kinds of Kaisow and Ching Wo, ex Fleurs Castle, have been at rather easier prices; fine to finest have, however, been well maintained. Pak Lin kinds have met with more attention, and prices show a slight improvement. Black-leaf kinds: Old season's remain as before. At public sale a chop of common Oonfa kind only

realized 9½d. to 9¾d. per lb., being rather lower. Fair kinds are dull of sale; fair to good medium have been in moderate demand at about previous rates; good to fine are firmly held, and the sales made have been at full prices; finest also remain firm. New-make kinds: Common to fair kinds have been wanted; good to fine are also in demand. Oolongs: The demand is very dull, and at public sale some 1,200 half-chests have been sold at from 10½d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. for common to good kinds of Amoy and Foochow. Formosa kinds with briskeness are wanted. Souchongs: The first arrivals, per Fleurs Castle, have met with attention, and sales have been made from 1s. 10d. to 2s. for good, and 2s. 1d. to 2s. 4d. for fine to finest, the quality being considered good. Scented Teas: There has been more doing this week in Canton kinds. Capers have sold at previous prices for fair to good kinds, and a few fine to finest have realised extreme prices. Orange Pekoes have also sold readily, but short-leaf kinds have declined ¼d. per lb., other kinds realising former prices. Foochow kinds have sold from 1s. 11d. for fine to 2s. 2d. for finest kinds, being much as before. Green Teas: There has been scarcely any business done during the week, and prices are without change. The public sales have comprised 11,024 packages, nearly the whole of which were sold without reserve. The deliveries for the week, as compared with last year, are as follows, viz.:—

	1877.	1876.
	lbs.	lbs.
Home Consumption ...	2,423,299	2,309,260
Coastwise ...	993,807	801,869
Exports ...	1,070,576	960,208
	4,487,682	4,071,337

SILK.

Messrs. Hogg, Walker and Co.'s Circular says:—The market continues very dull, and prices of nearly all descriptions have undergone a further slight decline. Deliveries from 1st to 15th inst. inclusive, China 810 bales, Canton 196, Japan 158, Bengal 43, total 1,207 bales.

LONDON QUOTATIONS.

CHINA.			
Taities, No. 1	...	...	21s. 0d. to 22s. 0d.
" No. 2	...	...	20s. 0d. to 21s. 0d.
" No. 3	...	...	19s. 0d. to 20s. 0d.
" Red Pencil	...	...	16s. 0d. to 17s. 0d.
Yunnan and Hainan, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	...	16s. 0d. to 17s. 0d.
Tayam Keying, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	...	15s. 0d. to 16s. 0d.
Long Beal	...	...	11s. 0d. to 12s. 0d.
Canton	...	...	11s. 0d. to 12s. 0d.
Chinese Thrown	...	...	14s. 0d. to 15s. 0d.
JAPAN.			
Maitoshi and Simchi, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	...	16s. 0d. to 17s. 0d.
Idah, (Noue)	...	...	17s. 0d. to 18s. 0d.
Sodai, No. 2	...	...	17s. 0d. to 18s. 0d.
Oshiu, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	...	16s. 0d. to 17s. 0d.
Amatski	...	...	13s. 0d. to 14s. 0d.
Kakidoh	...	...	17s. 0d. to 18s. 0d.
Hatcho-gee	...	...	13s. 0d. to 14s. 0d.

COTTON.—The general position of this article has remained unchanged, and throughout a very dull tone has prevailed, and American, which is the chief object of speculative operations, has declined almost continuously, closing nearly ¼d. lower for future delivery. East India descriptions have been comparatively steady, Tinnivelly closing 5½d. to 5 11-16d., fair to fine. Western Madras 4 13-16d. to 5 7-16d., barely fair to good. Bengal 4½d. to 4¾d., fair. Scinde 4½d. to 4 15-16d., good, and Rangoon 4½d. to 5d., fair to good.

COFFEE.—The market has continued inactive, and supplies, although not extensive, proving in excess of the present demand, prices have again given away; at the close, however, there has been an improved demand, and a firmer tone prevails. Excepting for a small quantity of really fine, which sold well, Plantation Ceylon has been dull of sale, and prices have been 1s. to 1s. 6d. lower, but with more competition at the close the decline has been nearly recovered. Native Ceylon has declined 6d., and foreign sorts have been in limited demand, and prices are 1s. to 2s. lower. The closing values of Ceylon are Plantation triage, 80s. to 90s. 6d., common grey to fine colour small 91s. to 97s. 6d., low middling 100s. to 104s. 6d., middling 104s. 6d. to 107s., good middling to fine middling 107s. 6d. to 110s. 6d., fine 111s. to 112s., dull to choice bold 110s. 6d. to 121s., pea-berry 106s. to 113s.; Native small 77s. 6d., good ordinary 85s. 6d., pea-berry 90s. The Dutch Trading Company have announced their next public sale for the 22nd instant, when 101,100 bags Java will be offered. Good ordinary is valued at 52½ to 53 cents.

CHINA STRAW PLAIT.—At auction 592 bales went off quietly, and the proportion sold was again moderate, barely reaching 300 bales, including the quantity offered without reserve. White £8 10s. to £14, cordage £14 to £16 10s., a few lots £17 to £25 15s., mottled £6 10s. to £10, good £13 5s., black and white £9 2s. 6d. to £12, brown and white £8 to £9 15s. per bale, including the quantity with all faults, and without reserve.

CUTCH.—At auction 1,050 boxes rather soft Pegu were all sold with more competition at firmer rates, Engine and Elephant Howdah and Flag marks (chiefly the latter) at 24s. to 24s. 3d. per cwt.

CINCHONA BARK.—43 cases and bags Ceylon sold at 2s. 6d. for common and 4s. to 6s. 6d. for fair to fine quill, one lot 7s. 5d.

COCONUT OIL.—The market continues quiet. Cochin is quoted £43 to £44, Ceylon in pipes £38 10s.

CHINA PRESERVES.—150 casks Ginger (brand Ayune) sold at 5½d. to 5d.

COIR GOODS.—Large supplies of Yarn offered at the periodical auctions went off flatly, and Coochin, of which the bulk consisted, met only lower offers, and the greater part was bought in; but Ceylon, chiefly good qualities, sold at full prices, viz., ordinary to good ordinary £24 15s. to £26 15s., medium sorts £27 10s. to £28 15s., good medium to good £28 15s. to £33, fine and superior pale even £34 5s. to £38.

GAMBER.—The market is flat at auction, 550 bales bought in at 21s. Privately small sales of whole bales were made at 20s. 9d., early in the week, but subsequently at 20s. 6d. per cwt.

HEMP.—The market for Manila remains depressed, and with little disposition to buy private sales are unimportant, and at the public sales only a small part sold at a further decline of about 10s. per ton. Of 1,089 bales offered about 300 bales sold; brown £28 15s. to £27 5s., fair to good fair £28 10s. to £29, 1st class sea damaged good Zebu £28 15s., sound Quilol £30 15s. to £31 5s., the remainder being bought in.

GALLS.—50 cases China have been sold at 52s. per cwt. lower in value.

GUM COPAL.—200 cases 4 casks 100 bags Manila were bought in at 30s., blocky, &c., 20s. to 28s., except 15 cases fair dark, which sold at 25s. per cwt.

HORNS.—3,127 Penang Buffalo offered were bought in at 48s.

HAIR.—2 cases China Human bought in at 1s. 8d.

INDIA-RUBBER.—89 baskets Borneo offered in public sale were bought in at 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 2¾d. per lb.

ISINGLASS.—At the periodical auctions held on the 10th inst. a good supply of Penang was all sold at about previous rates for tongue, extreme rates for fine leaf, but rather lower for ordinary, and cake at full rates to 2d. advance. Saigon sold rather dearer; 78 cases 15-bags Penang were nearly all sold, good to fine tongue at 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d., ordinary to middling at 3s. 5d. to 4s. 1d., low dark at 2s. 7d. to 3s. 4d., very fine pale leaf at 5s. 7d., good 5s., ordinary to middling mixed and dark at 3s. 3d. to 4s. 1d., low 2s. 6d. to 3s. 1d., fair to good cake at 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d.; 49 cases 6 bags Saigon sold, good leaf 4s. 10d., middling 3s. 9d., low and ordinary 3s. 10d. to 3s. 6d., middling to good tongue at 3s. 6d. to 4s., ordinary dark at 3s. 2d. to 3s. 5d., long at 3s. 5d. to 3s. 9d., very ordinary cake 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d.; 37 cases 6 bags Bombay sold, middling to good new tongue at 3s. 7d. to 3s. 10d., bladder pipe at 3s. 8d. to 4s., small ditto 2s. 10d. to 3s. 1d., fair to find bold cake at 2s. 5d. to 2s. 8d., ordinary to middling at 1s. 8d. to 2s. 3d.; 35 bales manufactured Japan sold, squares 11d., ditto pressed 1s., pressed strips 1s. 6d. per lb.

JAPAN WAX.—At auction 253 cases, gold bold squares sold at 43s. 6d., one lot 44s. per cwt., being 1s. 6d. lower.

PLUMBAGO.—At auction 300 barrels Ceylon met a slow demand, and only 50 barrels sold, middling dust at 8s. 6d. per cwt.

PEPPER.—Black continues flat, with sales privately of about 500 bags Singapore at 3½d. to 3 11-16d., chiefly the former price. A total of 2,325 bags at public sale were offered freely, and the bulk sold at a further decline of 1-16d. per lb.; of 1,770 Singapore 1,300 bags sold, greyish at 3½d. to 3¾d., fair at 3¾d., one lot 3¾d.; 510 bags Penang bought in at 3½d.; 45 bags good bright Aleppy sold at 4½d. to 4¾d. After the sale about 300 bags Singapore sold at 3 9-16d.—White: Unusually large supplies, amounting to 2,210 bags, were brought to auction, creating a depressed tone, and only a small part sold at a decline of about ¼d. per lb.; of 1,929 bags Singapore 350 bags sold, good bold at 6½d., good fair (291 bags without reserve) at 6¾d., with a few lots 6½d.; of 281 bags Penang 100 bags sold, fair at 5½d., good at 6d. to 6¾d.

RICE.—An increased demand has prevailed for floating cargoes, and sales have been more readily effected at full to slightly dearer rates. On the spot the market is also dearer. Fifteen floating cargoes have been sold, viz.:—The Dolbadern Castle, 1,400 tons Bassein, April sailing, at 10s. 7½d. The Scarsella, 1,178 tons Bassein, off coast, at 10s. 6¾d. The Renfrewshire, 1,350 tons Necransie, off coast, at 10s. The Itonus, 1,229 tons Bassein, May sailing, at 11s. 1½d. open charter. The Corrientes, 882 tons Rangoon, March sailing, at 10s. 9d. open charter. The Guinepe Mazzini, 769 tons Rangoon, March sailing, at 10s. 9d. open charter. The Luigia V., 794 tons Rangoon, March sailing, at 10s. 9d. The A. T. Cooper, 1,800 tons Bassein, August shipment, at 11s. 8d. open charter. The Bay of Bengal, 1,685 tons Rangoon, June sailing, Ngataen at 11s. 7½d., Ngakyouck at 11s. 8d., quay terms Liverpool; the Manitoba, 1,158 tons Necransie, April sailing, at 10s. 3d. open charter; the Ravenna, 1,013 tons Rangoon, March sailing, at 11s.; the Flinthshire, 1,825 tons Bassein, April sailing, at 11s. open charter; the Francesca T., 1,344 tons Bassein, April, at 11s.; the Luigia Raffa, 1,552 tons Necransie, off coast, at 10s. 3d. open charter, and the Saga, 941 tons Bassein, April, at 10s. 7½d. On the spot 150 tons fine white Bengal have been sold at 14s.; 2,000 bags old Moulmein at 10s. 9d., and 5,000 bags new Rangoon at 11s. 3d. ex quay.

RATTANS.—At auction 26 tons Singapore sort were partly sold at £11 15s. per ton for a few round lots, 20 bales split ditto bought in at 1s. 1d. per lb.

SUGAR.—There has been some demand for refining descriptions, which has been freely met, and business has been done at the previous decline, and in some instances again cheaper. At auction 1,500 bags refined China, fine white pieces, were bought in at 33s. 6d., but afterwards sold at 32s. Privately, 150 tons unclayed Illo Illo sold at 17s. per cwt.

SAPANWOOD.—9 tons Manila at £5, and 1 ton damaged from China at £5 7s. 6d. per ton.

TOBACCO.—40 bales China Leaf sold at 4½d., 2 ditto ditto repacked damaged 3½d., 502 ditto Japan 5d. to 9½d., one lot 1s., 296 ditto ditto damaged 2½d. to 6¾d., inferior 1½d. to 1¾d., 38 ditto ditto scraps 1½d. to 1¼d., 15 ditto Sumatra 7d. to 1s. 6d.

TIN.—A further reduction has taken place in the value of this article, without, however, stimulating the demand, and only a limited business has been done. Closing quotations are:—Straits on the spot £65, at £65 to £65 10s.; Banca £70; Billiton £67 per ton.

RATTANS.—At auction of 40 tons offered one lot of sound Penang sold at £25.

SPICES.—Cinnamon: 212 boxes China were nearly all sold, thin and coarse quill at 9d., coarse at 7½d. to 8d., twigs and cuttings at 5½d., ditto externally stained at 5d. Cinnamon Chips: 104 bags Ceylon were bought in at 4½d. to 5½d. Cloves continue dull of sale and in auction 7 cases Penang were withdrawn. Ginger: 193 cases, 9 bags Japan offered and all bought in at 33s. Maca: 5 cases fine bright Penang were bought in at 3s., 44 boxes (56 lb. each) good ordinary red Java sold at 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d., chiefly the former price, being rather lower. Nutmegs: A good supply at auction went off at easier rates for bold, and 1d. lower for small; average 74 to 75 nuts to the pound at

3s. 9d. to 3s. 10d., 80's at 3s. 8d., 81's at 3s. 7d., 88's at 3s. 6d., 113's at 2s. 2½d. to 2s. 3d., 140 to 150's at 1s. 6d., defective lined at 1s.

SAGO.—At auction only 543 bags were offered, met little demand, and nearly the whole was bought in, only 40 bags fair small being sold at 16s. Sago Flour: 100 bags have been sold at 15s. 9d. each.

TAPIOCA.—Large supplies of Singapore, amounting to 1,383 bags, in auction went off flatly, and were chiefly bought in, good 1 to fine at 2½d. to 3d., superior 3½d., only 150 bags being sold, Malacca sort at 2½d., good white 2½d.; 344 bags fine Penang withdrawn.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

MANCHESTER GOODS.

Early in the week with better business in Cotton this market became steadier, though with the limited inquiry no advantage could be gained by sellers. Towards the close the tone has again been very quiet, and only a limited amount of transactions have taken place in either Yarns or Goods. Offers have not been wanting, and of fair extent, but the prices at which these could have been carried through are much below any concessions producers might be disposed to make.

QUOTATIONS.

			a. d.	a. d.
Grey Shirtings	36½-39 in.	7½ba.	5 1½	to 7 3½
Do. do.	44-46 in.	8½ba.	6 1	to 8 7
Do. do.	46-48 in.	7½ba.	6 0½	to 7 8½
Do. do.	48-50 in.	8½ba.	6 8½	to 8 5½
Do. do.	50-52 in.	9½ba.	7 8½	to 9 5½
Do. do.	52-54 in.	10½ba.	9 4½	to 10 6½
Grey T. Cloths	35 in.	8½ba.	4 2	to 4 11
Do. do.	36 in.	7½ba.	4 3 1-16	to 5 8 1-16
Do. do. (Mexicans)	36 in.	7½ba.	5 3 9-16	to 6 9 9-16
Do. do.	36 in.	8½ba.	6 3 13-16	to 7 9 13-16
Madapolams	38 in.	8½ba.	5 3 11-16	to 6 11-16
Grey Jaconets	39 in.	8½ba.	5 6 17-32	to 6 17-32
Grey Drills	36 in.	14½ba.	8 5½	to 11 0½
Grey Jeans	36 in.	8½ba.	6 10½	to 8 7½
White Spot Shirtings	36 in.	8½ba.	9 4½	to 11 0½
Brocade do.	36 in.	8½ba.	9 9	to 11 0½
Damasks	36 in.	8½ba.	16 11½	to 18 10
Water Twist (China quality)	16-24	8½ba.	0 9½	to 0 11½
Do. do. do.	24-32	8½ba.	0 10½	to 0 12½
Do. do. (Mock)	32-43	8½ba.	0 10½	to 0 12½

METALS.

IRON.—Welsh: Rails, £5 10s. to £5 15s.; Bars, £5 15s.; Staffordshire Best: Bars, £7 10s. to £8; Nail Rods, £7 5s. to £8; Hoops, £7 15s. to £9 15s.; Sheets, £9 to £12; Scotch Pig, No. 1, £2 15s. to £3 4s.; Swedes, Bars, Hammered, £11 to £12; Swedes, Steel in kegs, ½ and ¾ in., £16 10s.

YELLOW METAL.—Sheets, 4 by 4 ft., 7d.; Sheathing and Rods, 7d. per lb.

TIN.—English Refined, £72. Tin Plates: Charcoal IC, per box, 22s. 6d. to 28s.; Coke IC, 18s. to 22s.

LEAD.—WB, £21; do., other brands, £20 to £20 5s.; Spanish soft, ex ship, £19 15s. to £19 17s. 6d.; Sheet, £21 to £21 5s.; Shot (kegs extra), £24 10s.; White do., £28.

SPKLTZ.—Silesian, £19 5s. to £19 15s.

QUICKSILVER.—In bottles of 75 lbs. each, £9.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	From	At
July 30	Tyburnia	Golder	Whampoa	New York
Aug. 3	Lina	Schweibel	Probolingo	Boston
8	Arcs	Thomson	Rangoon	Brouwerhaven
7	Granville	Flambart	Akyab	Havre
8	Sei	Vaile	Do.	Cuxhaven
8	Dorthea	Meichertsen	Rangoon	Hamburg
8	Johan	Tjellen	Akyab	London
9	Uphelia	Efford	Rangoon	Do.
9	Lydia Skolfeld	Dunning	Akyab	Do.
9	Opur	Nygard	Do.	Falmouth
9	Charles Forbes	Low	Do.	Antwerp
9	Emma and Robert	Schoert	Do.	St. Nazaire
10	Andreas Rickmers	Budelsmann	Rangoon	St. Nazaire
11	Peter Aker	Larsen	Maulmain	Bordeaux
12	Coulakyle	Gordon	Yokohama, &c.	New York
13	Lightning	Watson	Manila	Do.
13	Wm. Frueg	Pyne	Ilo Ilo and Mauritius	Falmouth
13	Sarah Ellen	Main	Akyab	Quebec
14	Saga	Sorvig	Bassett	Scilly
14	Polynesian	Young	Rangoon	Liverpool
15	Lady Pearlryu	Owen	Bassett	Do.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	For	From
July 25	dothwe 1 Castle	—	Yokohama	San Francisco
27	Midnight	Tucker	Do.	New York
27	Walker Armstrong, Jr	Hooper	Anjer	Do.
Aug. 2	Loyal Sam	—	Do.	Do.
5	Crisomo	Green	Singapore	Penarth
7	Astora	Jager	Macassar	Ymuiden
7	Belgie (s.)	Metcalfe	Hong Kong	San Francisco
7	Kj. ris (s.)	Paulsen	Shanghai	Hamburg
8	Leedchmers (s.)	Cunningham	Singapore	Cuxhaven
8	Ocean Beauty	Seagrove	Batavia	London
9	Olaua	Longa	Manila	Liverpool

DEPARTURES—continued.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	For	From
9	Anchises (s.)	Butler	Hong Kong	Do.
9	Braemar Castle (s.)	Ayles	China	London
10	Papa	Blount	Hong Kong	Cardiff
10	Princess Louise	Perkins	Manila	Liverpool
10	Princess Amalia	Sorensen	Singapore	Shields
10	Princess Amalia	Timmermann	Atchoua	Newcastle
10	Mikado	Prhn	Shanghai	London
10	Friesland (s.)	Irk	Batavia	Southampton
11	Auriga	Mower	Yokohama	Cardiff
11	North Star	Thompson	Hong Kong	Do.
11	Isarope	Brass	Penang	London
11	Dordrecht II.	Ro gas	Samarang	Brouwerhaven
11	E. P. Bourverie	Evans	Hong Kong	Penarth
11	Reichstag	Hoffmann	Singapore	Newcastle
14	Regulus	Lange	Hong Kong	Cardiff
14	Moss Glen	Nicholls	Do.	Penarth
14	Alice Rickmers	Kinne	Singapore	Do.
15	Koning d. Nedrida (s.)	—	Batavia	Southampton
15	Sourabaya No. 11 (s.)	—	Do.	Shields

See Shipping Postscript and Correspondence Letters.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

Date.	Steamer.	From	To
Aug. 8	Prins Hendrik	Nieuwe Diep	Batavia
10	Strathairly	London	Penang, &c.
12	City of Limerick	Do.	Do.
14	Viking	Penchow	London
14	Galley of Lorne	Hankow	Do.

SPOKEN.

ST. ELMO, Cardiff to Hong Kong, June 1, 23 S., 28 W.

SUNABER, New York to Anjer, June 13, 6 S., 33 W.

SIERRA MORENA, Rangoon to Liverpool, Aug. 11, 50 N., 14 W.

SCHIEDAM, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, July 13, on the line, 31 W.

MELVA (Norw. barq.), Akyab to Falmouth, July 10, 35 S., 32 E.

GUAM, Sunderland to Java, July 10, off Cape of Good Hope.

MELANOR, Rangoon —, July 10, off Cape Agulhas.

CASUALTIES.

NEW YORK.—August 1, the Hemogin Anna, from Batavia to Falmouth, which put in here leaky, having repaired, sailed, July 31, for St. Nazaire.

HONG KONG.—Aug. 14, the Adela has grounded at Newchwang, and will probably be condemned.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ST. CATHERINE'S POINT, ISLE OF WIGHT.—Aug. 15 (11 A.M.), passed, Prins van Orange (str.), from Batavia, for Amsterdam.

GIBRALTAR.—Aug. 10, passed, Diomed (str.), China for London; 13, Glengyle (str.), Shanghai for London; Ulysses, Liverpool for Penang, &c.

TABLE BAY.—July 11, sailed Saga, for Batavia.

SIMON'S BAY.—July 13, sailed, Curacao (Dutch war str.), for Batavia.

EAST LONDON.—Sailed, July 12, Naomi, for Guam; 13, Wandering Chief, for Java.

LOADING.

AT LONDON.—STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Radnorshire, Glenfinlas. For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Fleurs Castle. For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Yokohama, and Hio: Bernaty, Glenarn, Parnes, Zanibar.

SAILING VESSELS.—For Shanghai: Rutlandshire, Agnes Muir. For Hong Kong: Felix Mendelssohn, Johann Smidt, Harkaway. For Yokohama: Fair Leader. For Batavia, &c.: Antje, Frida Lehment. For Singapore: Speculant.

AT LIVERPOOL.—For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Glauco (s.), Deucalion (s.). For Hong Kong: Charger. For Manila: Bonanza. For Anjer: Ellen Munro. For Batavia, &c.: Alice Davies.

AT GLASGOW.—For Manila: John C. Munro. For Singapore and Penang: Carrick Castle.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth.

Rates for steamers and sailing ships on the berth continue depressed. The berth is abundantly supplied. Homeward chartering is quite at a standstill, and ships in China waters find difficulty in obtaining cargo at any rate of freight.

FOR STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—To Yokohama: 37s. 6d. weight, 35s. meat. To Hio: 40s. weight, 40s. meat. To Nagasaki: 60s. weight, 65s. meat. To Shanghai: 32s. 6d. weight, 32s. 6d. meat. To Hankow: 50s. weight, 50s. meat. To Hong Kong: 32s. 6d. weight, 32s. 6d. meat. To Singapore: 30s. weight, 30s. meat. To Penang: 30s. weight, 30s. meat. To Colombo: 30s. weight or meat. To Batavia: 60s. meat. To Samarang: 70s. meat. To Sourabaya: 70s. meat.

FOR SAILING VESSELS.—To Yokohama: 30s. weight, 30s. meat. To Hio: 30s. weight or meat. To Shanghai: 25s. weight, 20s. meat. To Hong Kong: 25s. weight, 20s. meat. To Singapore: 22s. 6d. weight, 20s. meat. To Penang: 22s. 6d. weight, 20s. meat. To Batavia Samarang, and Sourabaya: 20s. to 25s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meat. To Colombo: 25s. weight, 22s. 6d. meat.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne, per keel.—To Yokohama: £30. To Shanghai: £30. To Hong Kong: £25. To Bangkok: 25s. To Singapore: £20. To Penang: £23. To Colombo: £20. To Galle: £18. To Batavia and Sourabaya: £22.

From Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, per ton.—To Yokohama: 30s. To Shanghai: 30s. To Hong Kong: 27s. 6d. To Manila: 25s. To Singapore: 19s. To Penang: 20s. To Colombo: 22s. To Galle: 20s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 22s. To Macassar: 25s.

From Birkenhead, per ton.—To Hong Kong: 20s. To Shanghai: 25s. To Singapore: 16s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 18s. To Galle: 18s.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, August 30, 1851.
PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,500,000.
RESERVED FUNDS, £500,000.

The Corporation grant Drafts, and negotiate or collect Bills payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Cape Town, Colombo, Poohow, Hio, Hong Kong, Kandy, Madras, Mauritius, Melbourne, Point de Galle, Port Elizabeth, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, and Yokohama on terms which may be ascertained at their Office. They also issue Circular Notes for the use of Travellers by the Oriental Bank.

They undertake the agency of parties connected with India and the Colonies, the purchase and sale of British and Foreign Securities, the custody of the same, the receipt of Interest, Dividends, Pay, Pensions, &c., and the effecting of remittances between the above-named Dependencies.

They also receive deposits of £100 and upwards for fixed periods, the terms for which may be ascertained on application at their Office.

Office hours, Ten to Three; Saturdays, Ten to Two. Threadneedle-street London, 1877.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

Incorporated by National Decrees of 7th and 8th of March, 1848, and by Imperial Decrees of 30th July, 18th and 31st December, 1866.

Recognised by the International Convention of 30th April, 1863.

Capital, fully paid up... £3,200,000

Reserved fund... 800,000

£4,000,000

CHIEF MANAGER.—MONTY. G. GIRD.

HEAD OFFICE.—14, Rue de la Harpe, Paris.

LONDON OFFICE.—144, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

LONDON BANKERS.—The Bank of England, the Union Bank of London.

BRANCHES AT—Lyons, Marseilles, Nantes (France), Brussels (Belgium), Calcutta, Bombay, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Bourbon (Reunion), and Yokohama (Japan).

The Bank grants Drafts and Letters of Credit on all their Branches and Correspondents on the Continent and the East, and transacts Banking business of every description.

HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Capital, \$5,000,000. All paid up.

Reserve Fund, \$500,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONG KONG.

LONDON COMMITTEE.

Albert Deacon, Esq. (of Messrs. E. and A. Deacon), E. F. Duncanson, Esq. (of Messrs. T. A. Gibb and Co.), A. H. Philpotts, Esq., Carshalton, Surrey.

MANAGER.—David McLean, 11, Lombard-street, E.C.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Hong Kong, Hankow, Saigon, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Poohow, Hio, Bombay, Ningpo, Manila, Calcutta.

The Corporation grant Drafts upon, and negotiate or collect Bills at any of the Branches or Agencies; also receive Deposits for fixed periods, at rates varying with the period of deposit.

The Corporation issue Letters of Credit, negotiable in the principal cities of Europe, Asia, and America, for the use of travellers.

They open Current Accounts for the convenience of constituents returning from China, Japan, and India.

They also undertake the Agency of constituents connected with the East, and receive for safe custody Indian and other Government Securities, drawing Interest and Dividends on the same as they fall due.

Dividends are payable in London on receipt of the advice of meeting in Hong Kong, held in February and August.

THE AGRA BANK (Limited).

Established in 1853.

CAPITAL, £1,000,000.

Head Office:—NICHOLAS-LANE, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON.

Branches in Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Karrochee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong.

Current accounts are kept at the Head Office on the terms customary with London Bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received for fixed periods on the following terms, viz.—At 5 per cent. per annum, subject to twelve months' notice of withdrawal. For shorter periods deposits will be received on terms to be agreed upon. Bills issued at the current exchange of the day on any of the Branches of the Bank free of extra charge; and approved bills purchased or sent for collection. Sales and purchases effected in British and Foreign Securities, in East India Stock and Loans, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Interest drawn, and Army, Navy, and Civil Pay and Pensions realised. Every other description of Banking Business and Money Agency, British and Indian, transacted.

J. THOMSON, Chairman.

BANK OF CALIFORNIA.—THE

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION are prepared to ISSUE DRAFTS at sight on the Bank of California, San Francisco, the terms for which may be ascertained at their Office.

Threadneedle-street 1877.

PARIS.—EDUCATION.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF Mdlle. DERICQUEHEM is situated at 10, Rue Demours near the Champs Elysees, and can be recommended by parent from India, China, and Japan. Terms, £60 to £100.

CHINESE IMPERIAL EIGHT PER

CENT. LOAN OF 1874.—The BONDS drawn for redemption at par, and the COUPONS due August 19, 1877, of the above Loan will be PAID on and after that date at the office of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, 21, Lombard-street, London, between the hours of eleven and three, Saturdays excepted. Bonds and coupons must be left three clear days for examination previous to payment.

London, Aug. 11, 1877.

CHILIAN GOVERNMENT FIVE

PER CENT. LOAN OF 1875.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the COUPONS due Sept. 1, 1877, on the bonds of the above Loan, and the BONDS drawn on 16th ult. for payment at par, amounting to £27,000, will be PAID on and after 1st proximo, at the Office of the Oriental Bank Corporation, 40, Threadneedle-street.

Coupons and drawn bonds must be left three clear days for examination previous to payment.

Oriental Bank Corporation, London, Aug. 15, 1877.

CHILIAN GOVERNMENT FIVE

PER CENT. LOAN OF 1875.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the COUPONS due Sept. 1, 1877, on the bonds of the above Loan, and the BONDS drawn on the 16th ult. for payment at par, amounting to £27,000, will be PAID on and after 1st proximo, at the Office of the Oriental Bank Corporation, 40, Threadneedle-street.

Coupons and drawn bonds must be left three clear days for examination previous to payment.

Oriental Bank Corporation, London, Aug. 15, 1877.

HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI

BANKING CORPORATION.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Transfer Books of this Corporation will be closed from 21st to 25th August, both days inclusive.

DAVID MCLEAN, Manager.

London, Aug. 17, 1877.

**FOR Tanjong Pagar, SINGA**

PORE.—The following VESSELS are now on the berth in LONDON.

	Tons.	Brokers.	To Sail.
Star of the South	667	Wright Bros & Co.	Aug. —
Mercur	481	Robertson & Co.	Aug. —
Glenfinlas, s.s.	3,120	Macgregor, Gow, & Co.	Aug. 28
Pleasant Castle, s.s.	2,471	Thos. Skinner & Co.	Aug. —
Benarty, s.s.	1,750	Norris & Joyner	Aug. —
Rudorshire, s.s.	1,835	Norris & Joyner	Aug. 20

LIVERPOOL.

Glaucus, s.s. 1 — | Alfred Holt | Aug. 23
Scale of wharf and dock charges may be had on application to the Company's London Agents, Messrs. MacTAGGART, TIDMAN, and Co., 24, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

S. BING,

DEPOT FOR WORKS OF ART, &c.,
FROM CHINA AND JAPAN,
9, RUE CHAUCHAT, PARIS

LIST OF AGENTS.

THE NINETEENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced the 2nd day of January 1877. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines, and 6d. for each additional line.

Subscriptions and Advertisements received abroad the following Agents:—

Paris	...	M. FAUCON, 48, Boulevard Clichy
Marseilles	...	The Corner at Hotel du Louvre
Hamburg	...	R. CARL (for Subscriptions)
"	...	WILLIAM WILKINS (for Advertisements)
Bremen	...	H. STEINMEYER
Holland—Rotterdam	...	H. A. KRAMER
" Amsterdam	...	MACKAY, BOOMKAMP and
Berlin	...	ASHER & Co.
Vienna	...	GERALD & Co.
Trieste	...	PERCO and Co., Corso.
Rome	...	PIALE, Piazza di Spagna.
Lisbon	...	H. Fogo and Co.
New York	...	P. & O. Company's Office
San Francisco	...	R. BROCKHART
Alexandria	...	CONRAD BRESHAU
Port Said	...	P. & O. Company's Office
Aden	...	J. MAITLAND and Co.
Point de Galle	...	JOHN LITTLE and Co.
Colombo	...	Singapore.
Singapore, Labuan, and Sarawak	...	S. J. SMITH.
Bangkok	...	SANDILANDS, BUTTNEY &
Penang	...	HOUGHTON and Co.
Batavia	...	JACOBSON, VAN DEN BRUN
Samarang	...	HOUGHTON and Co.
Sourabaya	...	G. SCHUIJ, Anier Hotel
Anjer—Straits of Sunda	...	KOTZAGA and Co.
Manila	...	LANT, CRAWFORD, and
Hong Kong, Canton, Macao, and Swatow	...	BROWN and Co.
Amoy	...	REDER and Co.
Poo-Chow	...	KELLY and Co.
Shanghai	...	JAMES HENDERSON
Hankow	...	PIANTEL and Co.
Tientsin	...	J. CANN.
Naasaki—Japan	...	E. L. B. McMANON.
Ose, and Higo	...	
Yokohama	...	

OFFICE, 79, GRACECHURCH-STREET E.C.

HOTEL BALMORAL, PARIS,

4, RUE CASTIGLIONE.

MR. MACKENZIE, Proprietor (late Hotel Walther), gives personal attention to visitors. Apartments of all sizes. Terms moderate. All languages spoken.

GRAND HOTEL DU LOUVRE ET

PAIX,

RUE NOAILLES, MARSEILLES.

THIS Hotel is specially recommended by visitors to and from India, China, and Japan. All descriptions of Apartments, from f.50 to f.3. Restaurant, Table d'Hotel, Reading Rooms, &c.

VICTORIA HOTEL, ROTTERDAM.

Proprietor, J. TRISSEN.

OPENED in 1869; Enlarged, 1872. Specially adapted for English and American Visitors. Terms moderate.

GRAND HOTEL, VENICE.

FORMERLY HOTEL NEW YORK.

ON the Grand Canal. First-class house with south aspect, the largest, best appointed, and most richly furnished Hotel in Venice. Elegant apartments for large and small families, replete with every comfort, and decorated in ancient style. Excellent cooking. Private gondolas at the Hotel. English and other languages spoken.

HOTEL DE LA VILLE, TRIESTE

PASSENGERS to and from INDIA, CHINA, and JAPAN will find the above Hotel well fitted in every respect. Hot, Cold, Fresh, and Salt-water Baths.

Restaurant, Cafe, and Reading Room, with English, French and German papers, and the London and China Express. Omnibus attend the trains.

CHARGES MODERATE.

HOTEL GRANDE BRETAGNE.

PLACE ROYALE, ATHENS.

ONE of the best Hotels in Europe. Views of the Acropolis, the King's Palace, &c. Charges very moderate.

S. KENDROS, Proprietor.

HOTEL DE BYZANCE,

CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE best Hotel in the Grand Rue at Pera; close to the English Embassy. Apartments and Salons of all sizes and prices. Pension at f.16 per day. Well recommended to visitors to and from India, China, &c.

HOTEL MESSAGERIES

ALEXANDRIA.

THIS Hotel is on the sea-side, two minutes' walk from the Square. Quiet and central. Large and small apartments. Pension f.13 per day, including wine. Well recommended by passengers to and from India, China, &c.

HOTEL DER NEDERLANDEN,

PORT SAID, EGYPT.

THIS splendid Hotel, situated at the entrance of the Suez Canal, offers every modern comfort at moderate charges. Large Dining, Coffee, Billiard, and Drawing-room with Piano, English, American, French, Italian, German, and Dutch papers. Garden. Hot and Cold Baths.

SHEPHEARD'S HOTEL, CAIRO.

THIS old-established House has been refitted with all modern comforts and is well recommended to passengers to and from India, China, &c. New and Old Cairo offer the greatest contrast for visitors.

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The Committee respectfully and urgently solicit the annual assistance of all friends who are able to help the Institution by their contributions. They cordially thank the liberal contributors to the Special Fund above referred to, and beg again to remind them and other friends of the School that it is entirely dependent upon the payments of the parents, and upon voluntary subscriptions, there being no endowment of any kind, or any other source of income, with the exception of an Annual Donation from the executors of a deceased friend to which, however, there is no legal claim.

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Glenorchy	100 A1	2,784	400	To follow
Glenroy	100 A1	2,131	250	To follow
State of Louisiana	100 A1	1,899	240	To follow
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